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Columbia College Chicago

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THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Columbia College Chicago's weekly newspaper

Strike halts college garbage pickup

○ Dumpsters inside Columbia's buildings may attract bugs before trash haulers return from strike, says a college official



Charles Kushner/Chronicle

As of Oct. 1, the dumpsters inside the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., were filled to capacity. The garbage has not been picked up since Sept. 30.

By Chris Coates
Editor-in-Chief

With trash pickup at a standstill after a regional garbage haulers' strike, Columbia officials said they are concerned with "pest control" and the smell of rotting garbage from the tons of rubbish that has not been picked up since Sept. 30. The college has no plan to hire a nonunion hauling company, an official said.

College officials cannot speculate how long the trash will pile up in the dumpsters inside and behind Columbia's dozen buildings before union strikers return to work.

"All of our dumpsters are full every day in every building," said Susan Babyk, assistant to the executive vice president, although she called her new office "trash central."

Babyk said the college hires two private trash-hauling companies, Oakbrook Terrace-based Flood Bros. Disposal and Chicago-based National Waste. Workers from both companies, along with 3,300 other metro Chicago union garbage haulers, walked off the job Oct. 1 after talks between management and Teamster Union leaders broke down. Union members are asking for \$6.80 more in benefit and wage increases over three years, similar to the package private drivers have in San Francisco and New York City.

The historic strike has left all businesses and thousands of residents in Cook, Lake and McHenry counties without garbage pickup, which is provided by private companies. Some parts of Will and DuPage counties are also affected, along with Chicago residents who live in apartment buildings with more than four units. Single-family homes and small apartment buildings in Chicago are served by the city's Department of Streets and Sanitation.

Of particular concern are buildings that store dumpsters inside, which turn dormant trash into festering grounds for insects and rats. Columbia has four such buildings that have internal loading docks: the Alexandroff Campus Center at 600 S. Michigan Ave., the Wabash Campus Building at 623 S. Wabash Ave., the South Campus Building at 624 S. Michigan Ave. and the 1104 Center at 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

The rest of the college's dumpsters are located behind the buildings in the alleys. Columbia's accumulating trash has forced the college to ask its departments to prepare for the long haul. The executive vice president's office advised all departments to separate food scraps and wet waste in a "central perishable trash collection area" on each floor, according to an Oct. 1 inner-college e-mail.

Babyk said that the faster-decomposing contents would then be double bagged and sealed inside larger containers each day.

But such mandatory rubbish isolation—which is done mainly to douse odors and reduce bug or rat infestation—will not completely alleviate the problem, according to Joanne Harding, an assistant in the executive vice president's office.

"Even though we keep the wet trash away from the trash that can sit for a while, we still don't have any place to put the wet trash," Harding said.

So, the college has been forced to make do with the limited space it has. After the college's contracted janitorial crews remove rubbish from the hundreds of trash cans in offices, rest rooms and classrooms, building service workers compact the rubbish manually the next morning, Babyk said.

Workers have also rearranged trash in the dumpsters to try to make room for more trash, according to Mark Sramek, a carpenter in the college's Building Services Department. Even with a little more space, Sramek said it's difficult to estimate how long before the dumpsters reach capacity.

Mike Debish, Columbia's acting executive vice president, estimates

See **Garbage**, Page 3

Grad school enrollment up 19 percent for fall

○ Undergrad numbers grow by less than 1 percent

By Fernando Diaz
News Editor

Graduate student enrollment claimed its largest increase in recent history with a 19 percent jump while undergraduate enrollment grew by less than one percent, according to enrollment figures released by the college last week.

Last year, 9,803 students enrolled at the college compared to 9,915 this fall.

The increase of 104 graduate students comes at a time, however, when the future of the graduate college is in question.

The graduate school operates as a separate college, and members of Columbia's administration are torn over maintaining the current system or making each department assume responsibility for graduate students enrolled in their department.

Despite the positive statistics, the ongoing review began a year ago to determine "whether there may be a better way to run the graduate school," said Keith Cleveland, acting dean of the graduate school.

Some department heads, like Photography Department Chair Bob Thall, have expressed a desire to see the system change.

"My preference would be to have the graduate photography students report to the [dean of the department]," he said.

Universities across the country have seen an increase in graduate enrollment, which has been attributed to the sagging economy and a sluggish job market.

A 2 percent increase would have equalled 10,000 students," said Elizabeth Silk, director of Institutional Research, of the Office of Institutional Planning and Research, which compiles the data.

In the reports released last week, changes were less dramatic than in previous years, but also more stable. Distribution of undergraduate enrollment by major remained consistent across the board, with the exception of the Art and Design Department, which grew by a percentage point, and the Radio and Television departments, which both shrank a percentage point to 2 percent and 3 percent, respectively.

The number of new freshmen entering Columbia dropped from last year's figure of 1,647 to 1,557, a difference of

almost 5.5 percent.

Among Columbia's graduate programs to post gains, with Arts, Entertainment and Management peaking at 25 percent of the total, a 1 percent increase over last year, and Architectural Studies and Interior Architecture doubling its size, now at 4 percent. Educational Studies, which totaled 16 percent of graduate students last year, shrank by 2 percent. The Film and Video Department experienced the sharpest loss of students, shrinking from 12 percent last year to 9 percent this year.

These figures point to a trend blazed by the graduate programs, which faltered in 1999 when the college experienced a 12 percent loss in their total number of students, according to reports by the Office of Planning and Institutional Research.

The only negative change since was a 5 percent loss the next year, followed by a 5 percent increase in 2001, an 8 percent climb in 2002, and this year's 19 percent growth spurt.

The undergraduate program has experienced a consistent pattern since 1999, when the number rose 1 percent to 8,346 students from 8,273. In 2000, that figure rose 3 percent, and for both 2001 and 2002 there was a 4 percent increase. This fall, the number rose by less than one-tenth of a percentage point.

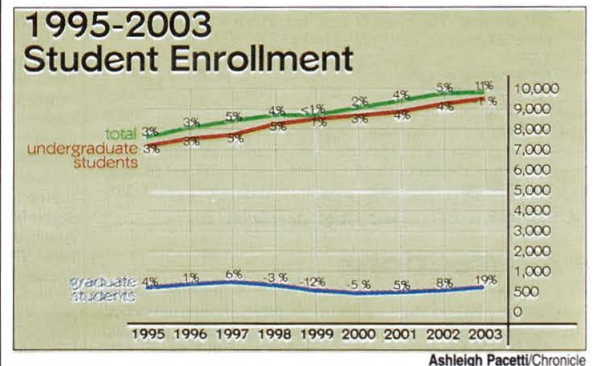
"This problem goes away next year," said Murphy Monroe, director of admissions. Monroe said much of the reason behind the low figures was an inability to house out-of-state students.

Enrollment for international students also dropped 1 percent overall to 2 percent for undergraduates and 6 percent for graduates. Prospective Latin American and South East Asian students have had problems in particular, said Gigi Posejpal, assistant dean for the international student affairs.

"A lot of it is due to visa delays, not so much that they are being denied," Posejpal said, "I'm hoping that these people will be back in the spring."

The college posted figures well below those achieved by at least two other Illinois universities.

For more coverage,
pick up next week's Chronicle.



Inside
this week



Campus

A little sample of things
to come in the superdorm

Page 3



A&E

Take a day off:
A documentary from
California to Columbia

Page 19



Photo Essay

Bears make you blue?
Us, too

Page 16

In this issue

1/5 Campus News
 10/11 National Campus
 Commentary 14/15
 15 Photo Poll
 A & E 21/27
 Horoscopes 26
 28 Crossword Puzzle
 Off the Blotter 31
 30/32 City Beat

Calendar: Oct. 6 - 10

MONDAY

■ The Music Department is hosting its lunchtime concert series, Jazz Gallery, in the lobby of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., at 12:30 p.m. For more information on this free event, call (312) 344-6300.

TUESDAY

■ At 1 p.m., the Student Health Center will start its seven-week smoking cessation boot camp. The program is free to any student who wants to kick the habit. The Student Health Center is located in the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court. For more information, or to schedule a general appointment, call (312) 344-6830.

■ The Music Department is hosting its Student Concert Series at 7 p.m. in the Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. Several student bands are expected to perform. For more information on this free event, call (312) 344-6300.

■ The college library is finishing its last week of tours at 1 p.m. There is also a tour at 5 p.m. on Oct. 9. Each tour lasts 30 to 45 minutes and is intended to acquaint new patrons with the collections and services available from the library. New students are encouraged to attend. For more information, call (312) 344-7900.

WEDNESDAY

■ The Film/Video Majors Meet and Greet will take place in the Hermann D. Conaway Center of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be opportunities to pitch projects, find a crew and enter a contest for "best pitch" and "best reel." Pitch sessions start at noon. For more information on this free event, call (312) 344-6700.

■ The library is celebrating Student Appreciation Day with "Doughnut Day" by giving away Krispy Kreme doughnuts from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the second floor. For more information, call (312) 344-7900.

THURSDAY

■ Ozier Muhammad, multiple Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer, New York Times staff photographer and 1972 Columbia alumnus, will share images from his career as a documentarian that has led him from South Africa to Afghanistan and back. He will participate in a Q-and-A session at 6 p.m. in the Hokin Annex of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The event is free, but RSVP is necessary. For more information, call (312) 344-7472.

FRIDAY

■ Chicago Filmmakers presents a special advance screening of *Howard Zinn: You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train*, with an appearance by co-director Denis Mueller in the Ferguson Theater, at the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. Tickets cost \$7. For more information, call (773) 293-1447.

Corrections

A quote in the Sept. 29 edition of the Chronicle ["Pacific Garden Mission steps up homeless patrols"] was erroneous. Because of an editing error, tactical Officer Ralph Zbierski was attributed with calling the police unit that works with homeless men in the South Loop as "the bum squad." Zbierski did not make such comments.

Also in the Sept. 29 edition, the Chronicle printed an erroneous byline. The story on the Single Room Occupancy in the South Loop was reported by Lisa Balde, not Angela Caputo. The Chronicle regrets the errors.

If you have an upcoming event or announcement, call the Chronicle's news desk at (312) 344-7255.



Chris Coates Editor-in-Chief

Pot pies and telemarketers

Ironically, I must have caught Dr. Patricia Farrell at a bad time. She was stuck in morning traffic when I called her cell phone to talk about telemarketers.

"There's a red light coming up, and I will be able to stop," Farrell said, while driving to MSNBC headquarters in New Jersey for an interview.

It was a hectic time for people like Farrell, a psychologist-turned-author who's now a commentator on how telemarketers influence the modern family.

She thinks telemarketing calls, which are known in the industry as "direct marketing," are more than just a nuisance. She thinks unwanted phone calls cause school violence.

Farrell contends that telemarketers strike most at dinnertime—the one time the contemporary American family gets to talk about their day. Mental health researchers and educators have found that such dinnertime conversations have a tremendous affect on stemming school violence. Yet having the whole clan of an overbooked family in one place is a luxury most hyper-busy families don't have, according to Farrell.

"Families really should have more time to be able to sit down and talk things over and really have a quiet time to really help each other be supportive [and] work on different ways to approach problems in school," she said. "And the best time seems to be dinnertime in the evening."

During dinner, parents are offered a glimpse into a childhood full of wanton stress and anxiety. While younger children might not grasp the convolutions of 9/11, they certainly absorbed the crumbling buildings and the tumbling

bodies. While older children might not understand the impact of the shootings in Littleton, Colo., they too saw the terrified students running out of Columbine High School.

Such fears create a Molotov cocktail in the minds of average adults, let alone middle schoolers. For kids, the best way to diffuse such concerns is to talk about it with mom and dad, if possible over a rib roast or pot pie. By fermenting out concerns at the dinner table, children are less likely to resort to violence themselves, at least in theory.

Enter telemarketers. These cunning hawkers prefer to call when they can guarantee people are within earshot of the telephone's ring. The favorable time is dinnertime, when Farrell says "telemarketers impose themselves."

It is one of a laundry list of reasons behind a ban on unsolicited telephone calls. Fifty million people signed up for the Federal Trade Commission's Do-Not-Call Registry, a list of telephone numbers that telemarketers are forbidden to call.

The ban partially went into effect last week, but was grounded after charges alleged the list limited free speech. On Sept. 25, U.S. District Judge Edward Nottingham said the registry was unfair because it allowed phone calls from politicians and non-profits, but not from businesses like the Chronicle (oddly enough, reporters discovered Nottingham himself signed up for the list).

Farrell thinks the minutia overrides the issue. "The courts are not responding to the needs of the greater good," she said. "In effect, [the telemarketers] are saying 'you have no right to privacy.'"

Any menace to privacy is taken pretty seriously in Washington, D.C. About the same time Farrell was stuck in traffic, President Bush was signing a bipartisan bill that made it clear the FTC had authority over the telemarketing industry. Anything bipartisan in Washington, D.C., is notable, anyhow.

Even with the confusion over the ban's constitutionality, the largest telemarketing group said that consumers should still see a drastic reduction in the number of unsolicited telephone calls they receive starting this week.

In a press release, the Direct Marketing Association said that it has "been calling on its members and the entire industry to voluntarily comply with the wishes of consumers ... regardless of whether the list is legally enforceable or not, due to various court rulings."

The problem is, the DMA can only request its members to comply. Most will not, citing their right to free commercial speech. Even with steep fines, telemarketing will continue, even if it's at a trickle. It worries people like Farrell.

"We're talking about kids getting violent in school. What's the greater good? You want to sell a vacation package or a phone service or do you want to make sure kids don't get killed?" Farrell said in the brief conversation.

Maybe I should have told her that Tom Brokaw, NBC "Nightly News" anchor, will be giving the DMA's keynote at its annual convention this month. He's also a contributor to MSNBC. Maybe I'll call her back at dinnertime.

In the Chronicle ... 1984

In the Oct. 14, 1984 edition, the Chronicle writes about the Television Department's new chairman, Ed Morris: "former local TV station executive who has taught at the school and now plans to put his production knowledge and background to use in expanding the department."

Morris, who worked at WTTW-TV and was considered a pioneer in his field, spent more than a decade in the department. He died in 2002. A television studio on the 15th floor of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., is named after Morris.

Under the headline "Student Council sorely needed," the Chronicle's editors plead with students and administrators to get behind an effort to bring student leadership to a head. "This semester, we could hold elections in each department to comprise an initial board," the editorial reads.

Nearly two decades later, the two-year-old Student Government Association is still searching for members. The board currently has several openings.

Announcements

OASIS enters terrible twos

■ Two years after its launch, but one since it bore the burden of registration, it seems the college's online portal is experiencing some growing pains. In an email sent Oct. 2, Rebecca Courington, director for Instructional Technology, said that a new server has been ordered

to add a little juice to the lagging system. The bad news is that it could take "four to six weeks for the new server to be configured and installed," and the system will be unavailable during an hour and a half each day.

The good news is it will happen between 5:30 a.m. and 7 a.m. So much for add/dropping in your pajamas.

If your schedules are incorrect, contact the OASIS helpdesks. For faculty, the number is (312) 344-7001. For students, the number is (312) 344-7788. Students can e-mail oasis@colum.edu or studentoasis@colum.edu.

Build that reel

■ A new products consulting firm is seeking a film and video student to shoot and edit a video of the annual Chicago Innovation Awards on Oct. 8, at 5 p.m.

The event recognizes the top 10 most innovative products and services developed in the Chicago area within a two-year time frame, and the firm plans to reproduce the final film for nationwide reproduction.

For more information call Eva B. Malecki, director of marketing for Kuczmarski & Associates Inc., at (312) 988-1525.

Ready, set, submit

■ The deadlines are fast approaching for several film festivals. The 10th Slamdance Film Festival and the Miami International Film Festival stop accepting submissions after Oct. 10.

Trading faces

■ The International Latino Cultural Center is once again hosting its poster design contest, this time for the 20th Annual Chicago Latino Film Festival, which runs from April 16 to 27.

The design will become the face of the festival on the cover of one million newsprint schedules. The winning poster design will be unveiled in January 2004. The deadline is Dec. 3, 2003. For guidelines and more information, call (312) 431-1330.

Connecting the grads

■ Three Columbia grads have their hand in nationwide features: Michael Palmerio ('94), edited *Dummy*, starring Adrien Brody and Milla Jovovich; Declan Quinn ('79), shot *Cold Creek Manor*, starring Sharon Stone and Dennis Quaid; Tari Segal, film and video graduate of 2003, started her internship with cinematographer Phedon Papamichael on the feature film *Sideways* this month.

Weather

College offers 'superdorm' sneak peek

○ Largest student dorm in the country has 700 spaces reserved for Columbia



Andrew J. Scott/Chronicle

Chassidy White, who lives in Columbia Residence Center, gets a glimpse of how rooms at the University Center of Chicago will look when it is completed in June 2004. The mock room was set up for a press conference on Oct. 2.

To provide students with an update

By Kwame Abasi Patterson
Associate Editor

on the soon-to-open "superdorm," on Oct. 2, Columbia, DePaul and Roosevelt universities provided their campus' media with a model viewing of the dorms and apartments that will be available to students next fall.

The Educational Advancement Fund, a not-for-profit corporation between the three South Loop schools, and U.S. Equities Student Housing unveiled two types of living quarters within the University Center of Chicago.

One of the featured apartments was the "quad suite." The suite is designed for four people, each with their own room. It also consists of two bathrooms and a living and dining area. Additionally, the apartment-style rooms come with fully equipped kitchens.

The EAF also presented a model of the "double deluxe" dorm room designed for only two people. A connecting bathroom is shared by two double deluxe rooms. The rooms have no kitchen or dining area and are priced much lower than the four bedroom apartments.

Columbia junior Chassidy White, 22, who currently lives in Columbia's Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, viewed the quad suite. She said that although the quad suites were small and would be inconvenient, she still plans to stay in one next fall.

"This would be nice for one person," she said, "but four? There would not be enough area to escape. I would live here because you have your own bedroom, but the kitchen and living room is too small. I think [731 S. Plymouth Court] is bigger."

There will be three other styles of

student suites and apartments, according to Eric Luskin, co-project executive of the University Center. All of the rooms will be cable and Internet ready and fully furnished with contemporary style furniture. Prices range from \$703 to \$1,108 per month. Students will be contracted to pay on an academic and annual calendar agreement, Luskin said.

One side of the building will house the semi-suites while the adjacent section will just be apartments.

According to a study conducted by the Scion Group, a research team hired by EAF in 2000, a number of students who attend the three colleges lived in apartments located in Lincoln Park.

Compared to the apartment prices in that neighborhood, University Center living quarters are "slightly higher," said Bill Vale, senior vice president for Property Management Services for the Scion Group.

The superdorm is available to undergraduate, graduate and professional students. There are no conditions for freshmen to stay in the semisuites or dorm-style quarters, according to Bert Gall, Columbia's representative to EAF.

"The assumption is [that] freshmen will purchase the semi-suites and upper classmen will purchase the more expensive apartments," Gall said. "But there isn't a rule on that."

Additionally, students who choose to live in the semisuites will have a mandatory meal plan as part of their package. But meal plans are not a binding part of the apartment package.

Columbia and DePaul are each contracted to 40 percent of the rooms while Roosevelt must fill 18 percent of the living space. Gall said he believes Columbia will satisfy its contracted portion by "strongly encouraging" freshmen to live on

campus their first year.

"According to [the Chronicle], freshmen have to stay on campus next year. I think that is in Columbia's plan to fill up the dorms," he said.

The \$151 million University Center will house 1,680 students, 38 resident assistants, two graduate assistants and three senior staff members, according to Luskin. The first floor is sectioned off for retail, and the schools are currently looking at eight prospects for retailers.

"We are looking for a mixed group of retailers who will add to the student and South Loop need, and there are a number of retail tenants who expressed interest," Gall said.

However, they can't release the names of the retailers until a formal contract has been created between the company and the building managers.

The second floor will offer a student common area with "amenities" such as a conference space, dining facilities and the office of the building manager U.S. Equities Student Housing.

The second floor will also include a multimedia room, 17 music and video studio rooms, a game room, an art studio and an exercise area, according to Rev. Mark Pranaitis, DePaul's associate vice president for real estate.

The third floor will be a large deck area with an outside garden and living room. The additional 15 floors will be the living quarters.

There is no curfew rule for the complex, and 24-hour security will be available.

The construction of the superdorm is scheduled for completion on June 1, 2004. Furniture will be placed inside the building beginning in July and students will be able to move into the superdorm in August.

Groups reorganize as numbers increase

○ Student organizations top 50 at Columbia

By Tawney Saylor
Staff Writer

Student leadership is growing at Columbia, and much of this development can be attributed to the efforts of the newly restructured Student Organization Council.

In their first meeting of the year on Sept. 24, representatives from the SOC gathered with student leaders in the Hub in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., to recognize new organizations and discuss changes being made within the council to better serve these groups.

"We are really hoping to raise awareness about student organizations so that they can continue to grow," said Chante Stepney, co-director of the Office of Student Leadership. "And when they do, SOC will be there to support them."

The SOC consists of one member of each recognized student organization on campus, an executive board and the director of Student Leadership. One of the biggest changes made this year was simplifying the structure of the executive board.

The new council will be comprised of two co-chairs, seniors Lori Bienick and Aja Johnson and a committee of five to six volunteers. This replaces the previous model, which included a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and parliamentarian.

"I have seen the way SOC has functioned over the past few years," Bienick said. "It was too structured, and students were losing interest."

Stepney said she hopes the change will make it easier for students to get involved. "Now we have a core structure of good individuals that will be here to serve these organizations," she said.

Other amendments that have been made to the SOC constitution include a reduction of mandatory meetings from every other week to once a month. The council also expanded its office hours, allowing students to come in on weeknights and Saturdays to meet with SOC representatives.

Dominic Cottone, director of Student Leadership, said that students are responding favorably to the changes.

"I think students are finally starting to recognize that there are student organizations here and that they should get involved," he said.

The SOC has made significant attempts to recruit new organizations, including posting fliers, sending out letters and putting up informational desks around campus. They are also working on a new website that will include contact information, required documents and proposals, and event schedules.

The efforts of the SOC appears to be paying off. There are currently 52 registered student organizations at Columbia, and representatives from the Office of Student Leadership predict the number will rise to at least 70 by this year's deadline. All official organizations will be recognized Oct. 10 at the New Student Convocation.

"Last year, students may have found it difficult to get an organization started," Cottone said. "Now they realize that it is a much more organized process."

In order for an organization to be recognized, they have to meet certain requirements. Every organization must have a faculty adviser, a

completed recognition packet, a tentative event schedule, a mission statement and a constitution.

Also, all groups must have at least 15 member signatures, and all officers must be enrolled for at least six credit hours with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

The SOC provides many benefits to recognized student organizations, including funding, networking opportunities and event planning assistance.

"Not only do we give students direction on how to lead an organization," Cottone said, "we help them develop organizational skills that can be used in future life endeavors."

Jahbari Townsend, a junior and music business major, is a student representative of Columbia's Urban Music Association and said that, over the years, SOC has become "more accessible and knows what it needs to do."

"Everything that needs to be done, they are doing," he said. "It is a lot easier now."

However, not everything has improved in the SOC. While the number of organizations continues

Start a student organization

Requirements:

1. 15 Member Signatures
2. Recognition by Oct. 10
3. Monthly Meetings

Benefits:

1. Networking Opportunities
2. Funding of \$1,500 per year

For more information call
(312) 344-6791

Asleigh Pacetti/Chronicle

to grow, funding has dropped from \$2,000 to a maximum award of \$1,500 per student organization for the academic year.

Cottone said the drop is a result of "budget cuts across the college and the area" and encourages organizations to raise their own money through fund raising.

"It saddens me to think that we will not be able to give out the same amount as we have in previous years," he said. "And we predict that the budget cuts will continue."

Despite the cuts, students remain optimistic. "If anything, the funds should inspire us to be more creative and do more fund raising," Townsend said. "We should be able to figure out ourselves what can be done."

Stepney stressed the importance of getting involved in student organizations.

"College is more than just academics," she said. "I fully believe in a well-rounded college experience."

Senior Regina Harrison, a fiction writing major and founder of the new African-American fiction writing group Black Ink, also acknowledged the value of student leadership.

"If you don't get involved, then you can't complain. You just won't see results," she said.

Garbage

Continued from Front Page

that the space will run out by Oct. 3. But he has a plan.

"The trick to this thing here is that if we can manage to do a little better recycling, the only problem we have to deal with is the food garbage," Debish said.

And that's a big problem in the buildings that have food services, like the Underground Café in the Alexandroff Campus Center and the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building.

Both buildings have dumpsters that are stored inside the building.

The dumpsters cannot be moved outside, "because it's inviting the

rodent population to nose around," Debish said. To boot, there isn't a lot of space for the dumpsters in the alleys anyhow.

Paper is another matter. The company that transports the college's recycled paper is not on strike and is continuing to pickup.

Harding said that the college should step up its recycling effort to curb the mounting garbage.

"If we could [get] all the paper out of the trash, what we have won't accumulate as quickly," she said.

In the end, Columbia officials said they plan to wait the strike out.

According to Harding, the col-

lege is not looking for a nonunion garbage transporter, because Columbia is "definitely a union shop." Plus, most of the landfills are closed in conjunction with the strike.

"Even if we had haulers, they would have nowhere to haul that stuff to," Harding said.

As of now, Columbia's garbage collection will continue to grow until the strike is over, whenever that shall be.

"It's garbage—a day is too long," Harding said. "It's going to get smelly [and] create a bug problem."

"So we just hope the strike is going to get over as fast as possible," she said.

 **Columbia** COLLEGE CHICAGO



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HARRISON & WABASH
UNDER THE BIG TOP

NEW STUDENTS REQUIRED TO ATTEND!!!

Minority mentorship funds in limbo

o College officials say they'll pay for group when \$200K grant runs out

By Kwame Abasi Patterson
Associate Editor

Columbia officials have not decided if they will take the responsibility of funding the Seeing Undergraduate Columbia College Ethnic Students Succeed Minority Mentorship Program after its three-year congressional grant has ended, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

"We cannot answer that yet, because we don't make firm [budget] commitments two years out. But I think it will be funded," Kelly said.

However, Mark Lloyd, assistant vice president for Communications and Marketing, said it is the school's "intentions" to pick up the program if the government doesn't continue to finance it.

"We have [every] expectation to pick it up, and it will be funded in the capacity of \$70,000 a year," Lloyd said.

The initiative is currently supported by a grant \$200,000 from the U.S. Department of Education and the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program.

Timothy Gordon, the director of the Freshman Center who oversees the mentorship program, said the money was intended for Columbia to create and maintain a program of its own after the grant ran out.

"The grant was only set up to get the ball rolling," Gordon said.

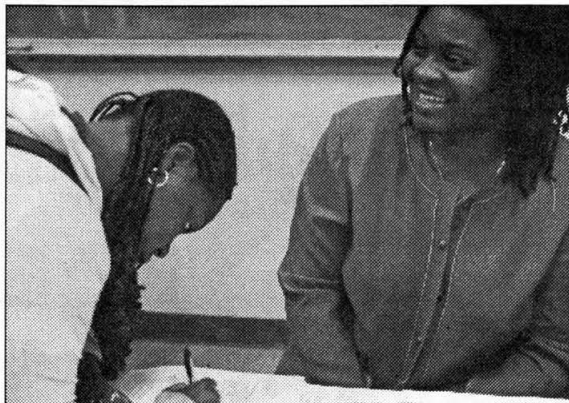
Columbia rallied for the grant through research conducted by the coordinator of the Minority Mentorship Program, Mary Butler, and through working with Illinois politicians Danny Davis (D-7th District), Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-2nd District) and Jan Schakowsky (D-9th District). Kelly said they saw an opportunity to have a significant impact for minority students at a small cost.

Initially, Columbia requested a small amount of money from the government to sponsor the program. Therefore, if the school were to absorb it into its budget, it would be able to maintain the retention initiative in the same capacity, according to Kelly.

"We consciously kept the budget to [a] minimum in order to pick it up. Compared to other schools, we are doing this on a shoestring budget," he said.

In an effort to learn the program's possible impact at Columbia, Butler benchmarked her research on other university programs in March 2002. She then pulled information from their "best practices" and married them into the Columbia's SUCCESS program," Gordon said.

Neighboring universities such as DePaul and Loyola and the University of Saint Mary of the Lake, developed



Andrew J. Scott/Chronicle

Keyonda Campbell (above left) signs up with Keanya Toran, of RAW, at an event sponsored by the Minority Mentorship Program.

funding for similar mentorship programs on a consortium effort.

From the schools' combined support, DePaul created its Students Together Are Reaching Success mentorship program in 1986. Since its beginning, the university has seen a significant difference in the amount of students who are both involved in the program and retained, according to Tynesha Harris, Office of Multicultural Student Affairs STARS intern.

Columbia's program is in its second year and has already seen positive numbers in its enrollment. The number of mentoring students has increased by 40 percent, and the number of mentees involved in the program has risen 100 percent compared to last year. The total amount of students and faculty in the program has increased to more than 360 people.

Butler said the program has seen such growth because it adopted a proactive approach in getting students involved early. Furthermore, mentors from last year provide a first-hand advertisement to persuade others into becoming mentors.

"Mentors are mostly spreading the news through word-of-mouth. This year students were informed from the beginning," she said.

Gordon said as soon as a new minority student was admitted Butler sent them program and paring information. Butler also followed up with students through Columbia's new school orientations and "mixers."

While Columbia officials won't know if the mentorship program influenced last year's retention rate until November, Kelly said enrollment numbers for African-American and Latino students have held steady from last year.

"African-Americans stayed at 16 percent, undergrad and graduate level has climbed 1 percent and the Latino enrollment has gone from 10 to 11 percent. In all, the undergrad numbers have gone from 30 to 31 percent this year," he said.

Since governmental funding has not expired, statistics on how well the program worked over a three-year period will not be available until 2005. However, Butler said the success of the program isn't just measured by facts and figures.

"It can also be measured by seeing how well the students do while they're here or just by them telling us how the program helped them," she said.

Kelly believes all students need the program, because a number of freshmen are "bewildered" when they arrive at Columbia. But since the budget is so tight it should only focus on minority students because the need is greater, according to Kelly.

"The risks and challenges are even greater for minority students. African-American and Latino students often come from poor schools, low-income homes, racism and are first generation [to attend college]. How can Columbia deny them?" he said.

Cezil Reed, a sophomore film major, signed up as a mentor this year. He believes Columbia should fund the program by cutting the budgets from other organizations that have an overflow of funds.

"It's a necessary program and needs to continue. Columbia puts a lot of money into things that don't really need it. Why don't they take the money out of these unnecessary parties and programs?" Reed asked.

'Pride' dwindles at Columbia amid changes

o Office of Gay and Lesbian Student Affairs names new head, while GLBT student organization scrambles for president

By Crystal Malone
Staff Writer

With the registration deadline for student organizations around the corner, the college's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender organization, Columbia Pride, is facing a dilemma.

"At this point there is no pride," said Courtney Arnold, the new director of GLBT student concerns. The organization is currently inactive and has no members.

The group must create an executive board by Oct. 10 to receive the full funding given to registered student organizations.

"It's going to be an interesting two weeks," she said. "I think we'll be able to do it."

According to Dominic Cottone, director of Student Leadership, in order for an organization to receive recognition, it must have an executive board comprised of six members: president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, Student Organization Council chair and an assistant SOC chair.

Every member must be enrolled in at least six credit hours, have a 2.5 GPA and be at least a second semester freshman.

"We need to get them in gear," Cottone said. "We want them to know that this organization exists and it's something we want for them on campus."

Sources say that the organization wasn't very active over the previous year and eventually fizzled out. The former President, Lori Bieniek, and other board members resigned due to other commitments.

Last year, the organization created a publication, Loop Hole, containing poems and short stories written by GLBT students. The book was never published.

"No SOC co-chair can devote time. If anyone wants to pick up where Lori left off, just contact her," Cottone said.

"There's no way I'm going to

let this organization die," said Mark Kelly, vice-president of Student Affairs. "We will get a solution," he said.

According to Arnold, she will be making every effort to reactivate the group. Arnold said she hopes to recruit some new members for the board at an Oct. 3 reception for GLBT students.

"We've got to get the ball rolling," she said.

Arnold said that a few students have approached her regarding Columbia Pride, and one student has expressed an interest in stepping up as the organization's new leader.

Columbia Pride is a student-run social organization focusing on the GLBT community. It was created to help students develop skills and feel comfortable about their sexuality.

"Like they really are welcome here and they belong here," said Charley Knapp, a therapist in the Student Counseling Center.

Knapp said that although Columbia faculty and students feel like there is an accepting atmosphere for GLBTs at Columbia, there are still strides to be made.

"The greater awareness and understanding is something that we certainly shoot for here at Columbia, but there's lots of evidence that it's not here yet," Knapp said.

He added that many of his students aren't taunted by malicious attacks but are instead plagued by ignorance.

"A lot of innocent language. Like not knowing that the language they are using is offensive, or not understanding that these views have been assumed to be universal for so long," he said.

"They are perpetuated without awareness."

For more information regarding Columbia Pride and GLBT issues, contact Courtney Arnold in the GLBT Concerns Office at (312) 344-8594.

Kenneth Cole talks fashion, politics with area students

o Designer talks of his early days of selling shoes out of a trailer

By Jody Richardson
Staff Writer

International fashion designer Kenneth Cole lent his inspiration to nearly 200 students from six area colleges Oct. 1, dipping into his 20-plus years of experience in fashion and advertising.

In Chicago to sign his new book *Footnotes*, Cole spent an hour sharing anecdotes and dishing out business advice to fashion majors gathered at Westfield Shoppingtown Northridge Mall.

"The best way to do something is not always the most expensive, but the most creative," Cole said as he described his introduction into the shoe industry.

Dana Connell, one of the event's organizers and a full-time faculty member in Columbia's Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department, explained that Cole's speech was geared toward talking about design concepts, as well as business and marketing strategies.

Cole's visit was sponsored by the Art and Design, and the Art, Entertainment and Media Management departments of Columbia.

"There was a crises in America in the fashion world about five to six years ago," Cole said about his entry into the men's fashion industry. "Up until that point, [men] all dressed like soldiers."

The space left by businesses switching to casual Fridays created an opportunity for his company, he said.

Now his line not only includes men's clothing but also fragrances, outerwear and women's clothing. Cole said he has an "extraordinary opportunity to make people feel good about themselves."

"In business, to be successful, you have to work hard," he said. Cole began selling shoes out of a tractor-trailer at the New York Hilton in September of 1982.

Beyond his commitment to fashion, Cole discussed his passion for politics and encouraged students to do more than just design.

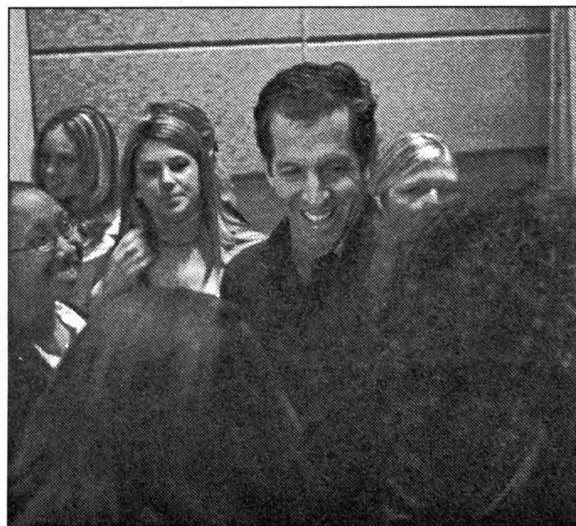
He described the history of his politically driven ad campaigns and how to market, as well as how to set an example. Cole became a pioneer in the fashion industry when he began AIDS awareness campaigns and spoke out about gun control.

Cole's stores in New York currently run an annual shoe drive each February to benefit the Coalition for the Homeless.

The audience was comprised of students from Columbia, the School of the Art Institute, the International Academy of Design and Technology, the Illinois Institute of Art, Dominican University, College of DuPage and Harper College.

In response to a student question about troubleshooting, Cole explained his conflicts surrounding the depletion of the U.S. dollar's value in Europe. He even talked about his inability to visit his Asian factory during the SARS outbreak.

Cole cited his inspiration: "I love what I do, I love a challenge and I am given a very unique privilege."



Heather Morrison/Chronicle

Designer Kenneth Cole speaks with area students, including some from Columbia, at a Gold Coast mall on Oct. 1. He was promoting and signing his new book, *Footnotes*.

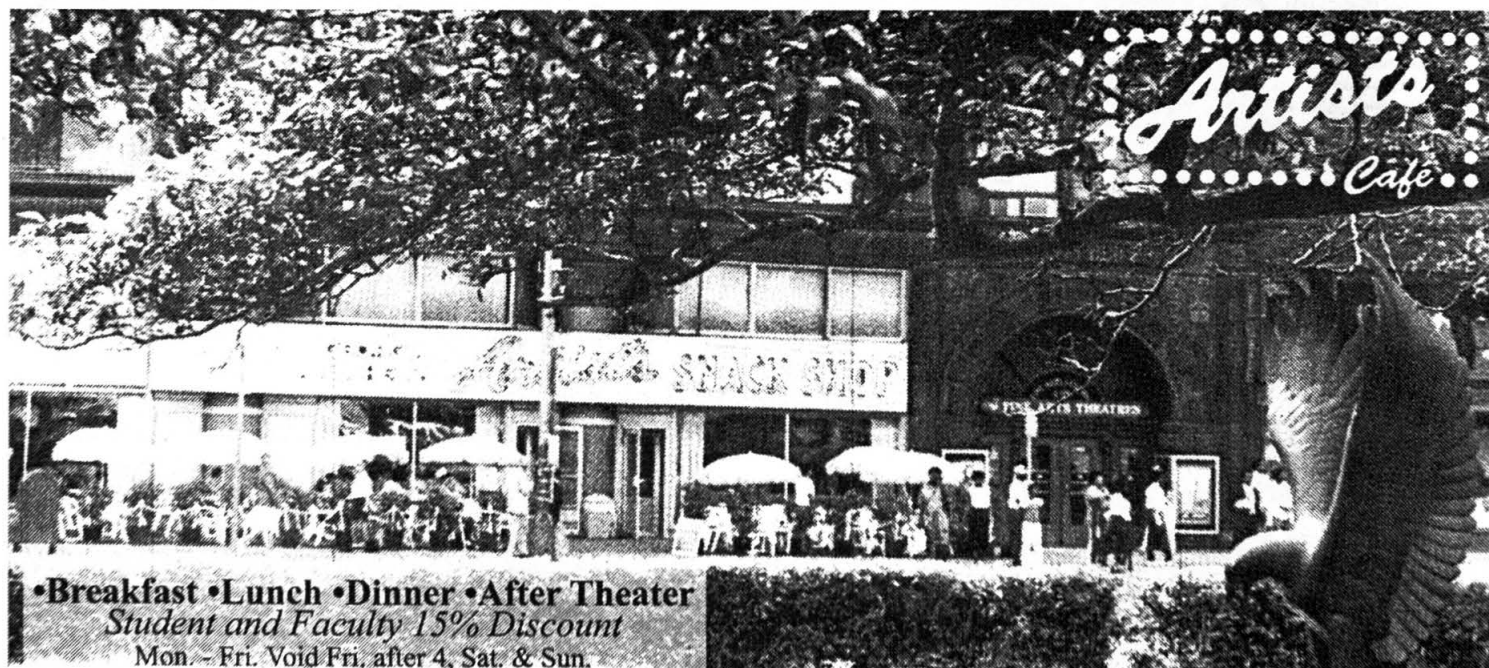
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1pm: Reception for new freshman/transfer GLBT students*

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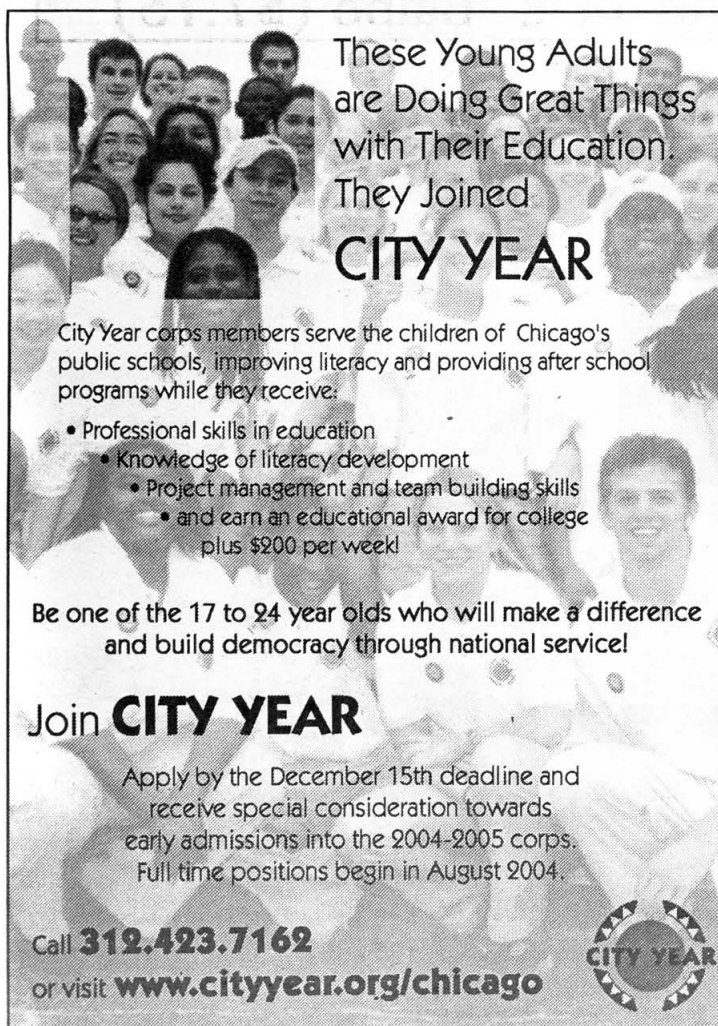
2pm: Welcome back for all GLBT students and straight allies

3-5pm: Say it Loud! Open Mic - Hosted by JT Newman, writer/performer/visual artist extraordinaire, founder and co-host of the world-famous Dyke Mic. Share your coming out stories, poetry/prose, whatever!

3-5: Diversity Resource Expo with representatives from Chicago-area GLBT organizations including Howard Brown Health Center, Project VIDA, Task Force AIDS prevention, Illinois Gender Advocates and more! Free anonymous HIV testing available.

*Co-Sponsored by Urban Fusion, an initiative of the Freshman Center, a division of Student Affairs.

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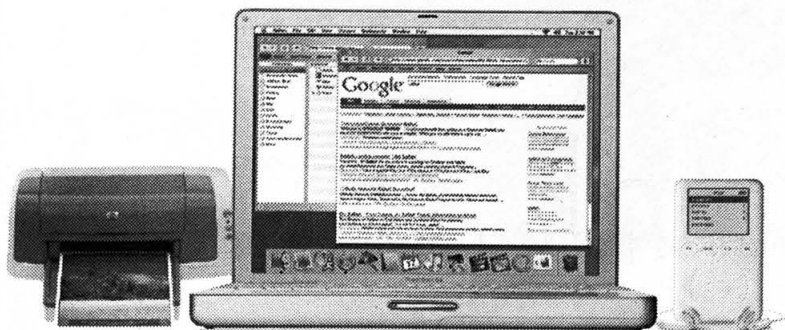
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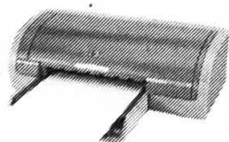
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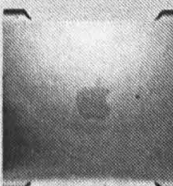
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Higher education loads up students with higher debt

○ The amount of money students borrow to attend college has increased their debts more than 60 percent

By Diane Carroll
Knight Ridder Newspapers

(KRT CAMPUS) KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Jennifer Fugett got through the University of Kansas with just \$3,500 in student loans.

A paltry amount, compared with the \$18,900 the average undergraduate borrows, according to Nellie Mae Corp., which provides federal and private education loans.

But the 22-year-old will join those repaying big-time loans when she marries in October. Her fiancé, Phil Goetz, graduated in May from Washburn University with a law degree and \$65,000 in student loans. They estimate they will pay \$375 to \$400 a month—for 30 years—starting in November.

"He made me aware of what I was going to get into," Fugett said, laughing. "I still feel real good about getting married."

The amount of money students are borrowing to attend college has shot up during the past five years, according to a Nellie Mae survey. With recent tuition increases and with Congress talking about boosting loan limits, the amount of student debt is expected to continue to grow.

The average undergraduate debt has increased 66 percent, from \$11,400 in 1997 to \$18,900 in 2002, the survey found. Students attending graduate school borrowed an extra \$31,700, up 51 percent. Law and medical students drove up the average graduate level of borrowing: Their average accumulated debt was \$91,700.

"Education is very expensive," said Sandy Baum, an economics professor who is co-author of the Nellie Mae survey. "Someone has to pay for it."

As state governments have cut funding to universities, Baum said, students and their families have

picked up more of the cost.

Also, she said, more students are taking advantage of the unsubsidized Stafford loans the federal government introduced in 1992. Those loans, which accumulate interest while a student is in school, have opened the door for all students, not just those with a financial need, to take out federally guaranteed loans.

Nellie Mae's random survey drew responses from 1,280 persons who began paying their loans between 1998 and 2001. Eighty-six percent of the respondents were undergraduates. The borrowers had attended public and private schools.

As in previous Nellie Mae surveys, the vast majority "appreciated the fact that they had the opportunity to go to college and they said the loans made it possible," said survey co-author and Nellie Mae Vice President Marie O'Malley.

Only about one-third said they felt overburdened by their student loans, O'Malley said. The monthly payments "certainly seem to be doable" as long as they stay in the range of 8 percent to 12 percent of a person's income, she said.

"So far the economic payoff on the back end is far greater than the \$18,000 to \$20,000 debt some people are incurring," O'Malley said.

Kelly Young, 28, of Smithville, Mo., said she was glad she borrowed \$14,000 to get a master's degree in December 2000 from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. The degree in counseling and guidance allowed her to get a job as a

career counselor at Rockhurst University, she said.

Young is paying \$80 a month. She's on a plan that calls for the amount to gradually go up.

"I've paid on it for two years and it seems like I've hardly put a dent in it," she said. "But for my husband and myself, it's fine. We don't have any problem making those payments."

is \$14,642, not far from the national average. Tyler said his staff tries to provide counseling to students about how much they should borrow.

"The key is only borrowing to meet your educational needs, not borrowing money to eat pizza and stuff like that," Tyler said.

The federal government offers a variety of loans to help students

through college. The most widely used are the subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loans.

The interest rate is the same on both. It changes annually. On July 1, the rate dipped to 3.42 percent during repayment and 2.82 percent while a student is in

school or in a grace period.

With the subsidized version, the federal government pays the interest while the student is in school. To get this loan, a student must demonstrate financial need.

The government limits borrowing on a Stafford loan. For freshmen, the limit is \$2,625; sophomores, \$3,500; juniors and seniors, \$5,500; and graduate students, \$8,500 per year.

Most national education associations are asking Congress to increase those limits by about 30 percent. The limits have been the same since 1992.

Congress has already started talking about the limits as part of its work in reauthorizing the Higher Education Act. A decision is not expected until next year.

The United States Student Association opposes an increase in the limits, said Mary Cunningham, its legislative director.

"We are very concerned with the amount of student debt that folks are going into after they graduate," Cunningham said. The debt is becoming unmanageable for too many, she said.

Cunningham said her nonprofit organization wants the government to spend its money on increasing Pell grants, which do not have to be repaid, for those students who have financial need.

The National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators is among the groups supporting an increase in the loan limits, President Dallas Martin said.

"The reality is, given the current economy and circumstances, most families and students will continue to rely on some form of credit to pay college expenses," Martin said. It's better to have them borrow under the more favorable rates and conditions of the federal program than from private banks, he said.

Fugett said she and her future husband appreciated the interest rate cut that took effect in July. They think their monthly payment would have been about \$600 without it.

Although the couple's student loan debt looks daunting, Fugett said she thought it would be manageable once they both get jobs in their fields. For now, they are working part time at a grocery store in Lawrence where they met four years ago, and they're living with her parents in Leocompton.

Fugett said both of them were glad they went to school. She said they looked at their loans as an investment in their future.

"I absolutely believe you need a college degree to get anywhere," she said.

"The reality is, given the current economy and circumstances, most families and students will continue to rely on some form of credit to pay college expenses."

—Dallas Martin, president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators

In Missouri and Kansas, financial aid directors said students apparently planned to continue their reliance on federal loans.

As of Aug. 15, the University of Kansas had received 16,106 applications for financial aid, up from the 14,990 received on that date the year before, said Brenda Maigaard, Kansas director of financial aid. Students have until Jan. 1 to apply for aid for this academic year.

The University of Missouri-Kansas City already has received 10,923 financial aid applications for this academic year, said Mel Tyler, assistant vice chancellor of student affairs for enrollment management. It received 11,878 for all of last year.

The average undergraduate debt at UMKC after four years of study

Variation of gene linked to binge drinking

○ Common 5HTT gene is also linked to depression and anxiety

By Kawanza L. Griffin
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

(KRT CAMPUS) MILWAUKEE—The same week that the University of Wisconsin was ranked the nation's No. 2 party school, a study suggests a new explanation for all that binge drinking—genetics.

College students who carried a particular version of a common gene tended to have more harmful drinking habits than those who had a different version, according to a study published in the *Journal of Alcohol and Alcoholism*.

The gene, known as the serotonin transporter gene—5HTT—has previously been shown to play a key role in emotions, including depression and anxiety.

"One might speculate that in a new environment like college, if one is prone to a higher level of anxiety, one might also be more likely to use alcohol," said Paolo B. DePetrillo, the senior investigator with the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism who co-authored the study.

However, DePetrillo said the relationship between drinking and emotions is not clearly understood, and that further studies are needed.

For the study, researchers surveyed about 200 Caucasian college students aged 17 to 23 about their alcohol consumption and then collected their saliva to look at a gene that helps regulate serotonin, a chemical messenger in the brain known to play a role in depression.

Everyone inherits long or short versions of the 5HTT gene from their parents, resulting in three possible combinations: two short, two long or a short and long.

Although the majority of the general population has either two short or two long genes, about 30 percent of the white population has one of each gene, DePetrillo said.

But the percentage varies within each ethnic group, he said. For example, African-Americans tend to have a higher proportion of the long variant, while Asians have

more short variants, he said.

Binge drinking, defined as five or more drinks at a single sitting for men and four for women, was more prevalent in students with two copies of the short form of the gene, the study found. In addition, those students were more likely to drink to get drunk and to consume more drinks at a sitting than students with other combinations.

The study also found that having at least one copy of the long variant was protective; those students tended to drink less, even though they went out to drink as often as the other students.

A study last month by Madison researchers also found that people with two short genes were more likely to develop depression after experiencing multiple stressful events.

Alcoholism affects one out of every 13 adults, or about 14 million Americans, according to the Alcoholism Institute. Men typically have more problems associated with their drinking, though alcohol problems are highest among young adults ages 18 to 29 and lowest among adults ages 65 and older.

In addition, people who start drinking at an early age, particularly those younger than 14, are more likely to develop alcohol problems later in life.

More than 70 percent of adult Wisconsinites drink, and a love affair with booze begins by age 10, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Despite a drop in the percentage of students who binge drink at UW-Madison—from 66 percent in 2001 to 62 percent in 2003—the school still managed to leap from 10th to 2nd place in The Princeton Review's national "party school" rankings.

"It's a chronic problem, and it's a struggle [to quit] because drinking has immediate effects for people who drink," said Allen Zweben, director of the Center for Addiction and Behavioral Health Research and a professor of social work at UW-Milwaukee. "But the more you drink, the more harmful it becomes."

Study: STD risk higher for young working women

○ Risks for college women lowered

By Julia Sommerfeld
The Seattle Times

(KRT CAMPUS) SEATTLE—The stubborn epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases among young adults has long been largely blamed on the risky ways of college students. But recent research by Group Health shows young, single, working women are having even more unprotected sex—and with more partners—than students.

The study of 1,100 single women—two-thirds from the Puget Sound area and one-third from North Carolina—pinpoints a previously overlooked high-risk group: sexually active women ages 18 to 25 outside of the college setting. Among such women, 61 percent reported having sex without a condom in the past three months, compared with 56 percent of female college students.

Study co-author Delia Scholes, associate investigator at Group Health's Center for Health Studies, said she was alarmed that despite having unsafe sex, these women weren't worried about the risks. Seventy-eight percent felt they were at low risk for catching an STD.

About 70 percent of STDs diagnosed in Washington are in women under 25. Likewise, 77 percent of

the state's 15,000 reported cases of chlamydia last year were in women between ages 15 and 24. The second-most-common STD in Washington, gonorrhea, infects women ages 20 to 24 more than any other age group—with 194 cases per 100,000 people, said Mark Aubin, STD field-services coordinator for the state's Department of Health.

The telephone survey was published recently in the *Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Among non-students, 67 percent of single women ages 21 to 25 reported having unsafe sex, compared with 53 percent of the younger age group, 18 to 20.

This study suggests the messages are working somewhat because students are still safer than the young women out of college. In addition to having less unprotected sex, fewer had multiple sex partners in the past year—52 percent of students compared with 62 percent of nonstudents.

"Clearly, if you look at their behaviors, these young working women are right up there in terms of risk," said Dr. Kimberly Yarnall, the study's lead author from Duke University. Though the researchers didn't ask about occupations, 15 percent had Medicaid.

Southern Methodist U. halts race-based fraternity bake sale

○ Affirmative action ruling sparks bake sale

By Linda K. Wertheimer
The Dallas Morning News

(KRT CAMPUS) Dallas—The sign said white males had to pay \$1 for a cookie. White women: 75 cents. Hispanics: 50 cents. Blacks: a quarter.

The event Tuesday at Southern Methodist University was no PTA bake sale.

It was a conservative student group's attempt at making a political statement, and it caused such a stir that SMU shut it down after 45 minutes.

The Young Conservatives of Texas chapter ran its so-called affirmative action bake sale to protest the use of race or gender as a factor in college admissions. Conservative groups have held similar sales at colleges around the country since February.

Group leaders say they were only making a point while exercising their freedom of speech, but a black student who filed a discrimination complaint with SMU said the bake sale was offensive. SMU officials said they halted the event because it created a potentially unsafe situation for students.

"This was not an issue about free speech," said Tim Moore, director of the Hughes-Trigg Student Center. "It was really an issue where we had a hostile environment being created that was potentially volatile."

Chapters of the group held similar bake sales at the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University this month. Both schools allowed the events, citing free speech policies.

Rushing said the events strive to

give students a sense of the inequality he says is created by unequal college admissions policies for whites and minority groups.

Matt Houston, a sophomore, said the group's sign, which listed prices for the treats by the race and sex of buyers, was not a learning tool. It was offensive, he said.

"My reaction was disgust because of the ignorance of some SMU students," Houston said, who is black.

"They were arguing that affirmative action was solely based on race. It's not based on race. It's based on bringing a diverse community to a certain organization."

He and Kambira Jones, a 20-year-old junior, both expressed their concerns to SMU officials.

"When I saw this, I was like, 'I can't believe they let you guys post this,'" she said. "I felt they were attempting to make Hispanics and blacks feel inferior. We jumped over the same hoops to get there."

SMU was already planning a forum so students and others could debate the aftermath of the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action. The court ruled in June that universities could use race as a factor in admissions under limited conditions.

"We value free speech, and I think our record here shows freedom of expression is important to the academic community and especially this one," said James Caswell, SMU's vice president of student affairs.

For the record, the SMU sale was a flop, at least financially. The group ended up selling just three cookies, raising \$1.50.

Universities try allowing students to make roommate matches online

○ Schools use new \$35,000 website service to let students choose compatible roommates

By Diane Suchetka
Knight Ridder Newspapers

(KRT CAMPUS) Charlotte, N.C.—They seemed like the perfect college roommates, Meagan Bailey and Melissa Doss. The University of North Carolina Charlotte education majors are both from the North Carolina mountains, both country music fans who love to work out. They even took the same classes their freshman year, so they went to bed at the same time, woke up at the same time.

They had so much in common, but they displayed their loathing for each other in identical ways. The silent treatment.

"For weeks," Doss said. And then they'd explode.

Instead of perfect first-year college roommates, they ended up a perfect example of how tough it can be for colleges to turn total strangers into friends who want to share a room the size of a closet.

This is the time of year when universities learn just how hard the matching can be. September and October, for many schools, is roommate-switching time.

Colleges try all sorts of ways to keep the time-consuming changes to a minimum. One way is a new computer program called WebRoomz, which works something like an online dating service.

About a dozen schools, including UNC Greensboro, are using—or are about to try—what the Atlanta company says is the only computer program in the United States that gives students the opportunity to choose their own roommates.

For a minimum of \$35,000 colleges lease the WebRoomz program, then ask students to fill out computer questionnaires about the hours they sleep, the music they listen to and how warm or cold they like their rooms.

Each student's responses are

logged into the WebRoomz program with an online name. Those searching for roommates browse through the responses looking for the perfect match. Just to be sure, they can talk—via computer, telephone or in person.

Online names protect their privacy and reduce the risk of hurt feelings. Students don't have to reveal their identities until they agree to become roommates.

"It gives the students the freedom to choose," said Sarah Nirkirk, associate director of auxiliary services at the University of Kentucky, which is just beginning to add the program. "They're in the driver's seat."

WebRoomz claims the program cuts down on the number of students who ask for room changes. But officials from several schools say it's too early to tell.

That's not the main reason schools use it, anyway. "It has to do with student satisfaction," said John Campbell, director of housing and residence life at UNC Greensboro, which just began implementing WebRoomz.

"It gives the students a little more sense of control."

Most schools in the Carolinas still match roommates the old-fashioned way. Students fill out questionnaires and workers match them—by hand, in many cases.

There are dozens of variations. UNC Charlotte, for example, asks five questions, three about smoking:

- 1) Are you a smoker?
- 2) Do you object to smoking?
- 3) Do you prefer a nonsmoking roommate?

The school also asks students if they have a preferred roommate or want to live in special housing—the honors dorm, for example, or Greek housing.

At the other end of the spectrum is Davidson College. The private school north of Charlotte bases roommate pairings on the Myers-Briggs personality inven-

tory along with a list of lifestyle questions (Do you study with music?) and information on students' hobbies and family living situations.

"We try not to put a member of the Brady Bunch with the only child of a single mother," said Leslie Marsicano, Davidson's director of residence life.

The system works, Marsicano said. Only four of 470 freshmen asked for room changes last year.

"When my colleagues tease me, I just remind them that we don't have the level of requests to make switches that they do at their campuses."

Students say they can't imagine any method working perfectly all the time.

"You really don't know people until you live with them," said Raechelle Berry, 19, a sophomore social work major at UNC Charlotte.

Her freshman roommate experience was, in her words, horrible. She ended up spending much of her time with her boyfriend, Larry Owens. His freshman roommate moved out after the two exchanged words.

The music major told Owens he couldn't sing. Owens shot back with an insult of his own. You can't play the trumpet, he told his roommate.

Nothing was the same after that.

"It's silly," Berry said, "but those are the little things that happen."

Who can predict?

Take a look at Bailey and Doss. They toughed it out their first year and finally realized they didn't like each other because they were so much alike.

"It's like marriage," Bailey said, as the two shared lunch between classes recently.

They're sophomores now and best friends. Roommates, too. This year, they asked to live together.

A worm ate my homework

○ Computer virus contaminates school's PCs

By David Damron
The Orlando Sentinel

(KRT CAMPUS) WINTER PARK Fla.—Ever since classes started for students a month ago at Rollins College, a worm has been eating their homework.

Hundreds of students at the small college say this semester has been one long computer nightmare so far. A virus-like "worm" infected the college network, slowing Internet use to a crawl and forcing some students off campus to do research.

"This is college," said Mike Netto, a political science senior. "It's like, embarrassing, to have a kind of problem like this."

Netto said he has little luck getting on the Internet from his dorm room, and one of his classes requires online research. Netto and other students said system crashes have caused term papers and notes to be lost.

At first, the university attempted to wipe out the virus, known as "W32.Welchia," by asking students to lug computer towers and laptops across campus to get virus-protection software.

Up to 300 students initially ignored or missed warnings instructing them to install a special anti-virus patch, Lloyd said, but most were reached this week.

Close to 35 students still don't have the safety software. They were kicked off the network Thursday and now face \$100 fines, Lloyd said, adding that the fine likely can be appealed and avoided in most cases.

All students probably were affected by the virus, he said, espe-

cially the 1,100 living in dorms.

The problem, as Lloyd described it, started when students arrived at campus and logged computers into the Rollins network, bringing the virus with them. The computer code in the worm clogged up the network when these machines were online, making it impossible for clean machines to get in.

Some students said they could not get into Internet chat room class discussions. Others drove to class to use a college computer, only to have it crash.

"It's been awful," said freshman Lindsay Phillips, 18. "Nothing was working."

Phillips said Sept. 25 was the first time she got online from her dorm room, so it may be fixed, but she's had to use a relative's off-campus computer since class began.

"Everything is on the Internet these days," Phillips said. "It kind of affected our whole life."

Other Florida schools saw similar problems this fall, but none apparently this severe. University of Central Florida for instance, had to turn up monitoring systems to keep away viruses, and that slowed e-mail down somewhat a few times in recent weeks. In most cases, instead of receiving e-mail from someone in 30 seconds, it took 30 minutes.

"It really hasn't been an issue for us," said UCF spokesman Tom Evelyn.

Next fall, Rollins will likely make students register personal computers at a common spot to clean the machines before they are used on campus, Lloyd said.

Chiropractic... The Choice For Me

Jason Kucma is a Third-year student from Medford, N.J. He graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Physiology concentrating in Cardiac Rehabilitation.

"The only thing that has ever captured my attention was studying the human body. The more I learned in school, the more I needed to know. The most logical step for me was to become a Doctor of Chiropractic so I could truly help people."

Before making his decision to attend Logan, Jason visited nearly half of the chiropractic colleges in the United States. "Logan is in the perfect location in a safe, residential area. The Admissions staff are very friendly and helpful and the faculty are excellent."

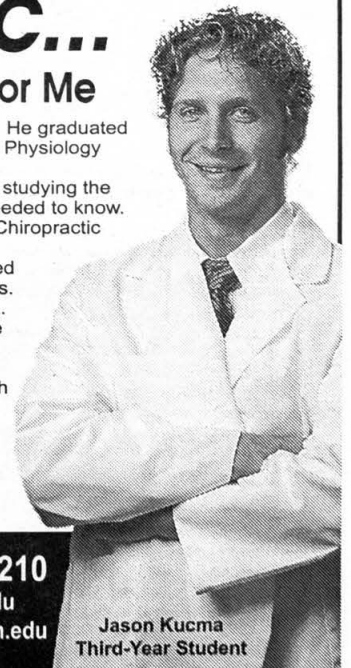
Logan College offers students an incredible learning environment blending a rigorous chiropractic program with diverse and active student population. If you are looking for a healthcare career that offers tremendous personal satisfaction, professional success and income commensurate with your position as a Doctor of Chiropractic, contact Logan College of Chiropractic today and explore your future.



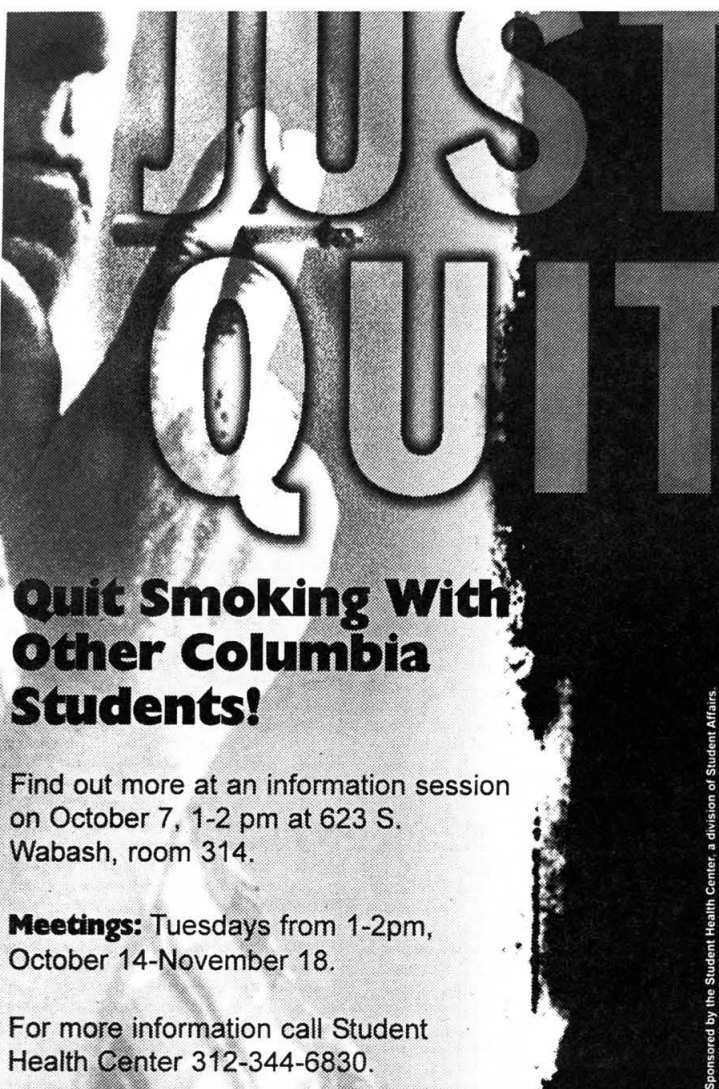
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College of Chiropractic

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loganadm@logan.edu

1851 Schoettler Rd. Chesterfield, MO 63017



Jason Kucma
Third-Year Student



Quit Smoking With Other Columbia Students!

Find out more at an information session on October 7, 1-2 pm at 623 S. Wabash, room 314.

Meetings: Tuesdays from 1-2pm, October 14-November 18.

For more information call Student Health Center 312-344-6830.

Sponsored by the Student Health Center, a division of Student Affairs.

CALLING ALL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS!
Get Recognized Now! Don't Miss These Events!

Freshman Convocation

Friday, October 10
Noon-3pm
On the corner of Harrison & State

Student Organization Fair

Friday, October 30th
11am-3pm
Hokin Annex

SOC and Urban Fusion co-sponsor

"Organize and Recognize"

Dance Party

Wednesday, October 8th
7-11pm

Contact the Student Organization Council at 312.344.6656 and/or the Office of Student Leadership at 312.344.6792 for recognition packets and more information.

Columbia College Chicago and Roosevelt University Present:

Basketball Intramurals

For Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni

Questions?

Contact:

Columbia College Chicago's
Student Leadership Office
1104 S. Wabash
Chicago, IL 60605
312-344-6791

Roosevelt University
Marvin Moss Student Center
425 S. Wabash Ave.
Chicago, IL 60605
312-341-2430

Columbia College Student Activities Office
623 S. Wabash Rm. 313
Chicago, IL 60605
312-344-7459

- Basketball Intramurals Interest Meeting will be Sept. 25th at 7pm.
- Registration Due: by October 3rd.
- Captain's Meeting: October 7th at 7pm.

Intramural's Begins:
October 14th
7:00pm-10:00pm

Roosevelt University Fitness Center, 4th Floor, 430 S. Michigan Ave.

Little Known Facts about:



The Underground Cafe

1. We roast our own turkey breast.
2. We make soups and chili's here from fresh ingredients.
3. Brownies and pastries are baked here every day.
4. Fresh hot biscuits are baked every morning for breakfast.
5. We serve gourmet coffees in three varieties everyday along with cappuccino, hot chocolate & iced tea.
6. We have sandwiches & salads ready to go.
7. We have hot sandwiches made to order.
8. We have weekly special menu items.
9. ...and we're right on campus!

Come and Visit Us!
600 South Michigan, downstairs
Chicago, IL 60605

Bring This Coupon to the Cuppa Joe (3rd Floor Library) and receive a

FREE CUP OF COFFEE

Offer only good Monday, October 6 and Tuesday, October 7

Columbia Chronicle Editorials

Residence Life requires too much moolah

As Columbia officials get ready to decide the requirements under which next fall's incoming freshmen must live within the Residence Life program, they mustn't forget one thing—money.

Last week, the Chronicle reported the college's plans to make it mandatory for incoming freshmen from outside metro Chicago—those living outside Cook, Lake, McHenry, DuPage and Will counties—to live on campus during their first year.

The idea was formed around the completion of the University Center of Chicago project, which is slated to open in the fall of 2004. The center will house students from Columbia, as well as Roosevelt and DePaul universities, and is considered to be the first area development of its kind.

It allows Columbia to offer, for the first time, enough beds for every single freshman to live within walking distance of class.

This also lets the school tack on an extra safety feature for parents who are nervous about leaving their kids in the vast and scary city so far from home.

But in the midst of all the excitement about the new opportunities that an impressive structure such as the "superdorm" can bring, the Chronicle implores Columbia to re-evaluate one very important issue.

It's expensive to live in any building in the South Loop and, as a result, it might not be in the budgets of some families to allow their child to live in the dorms.

Currently, a two bedroom, four-person dorm at the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, costs \$6,750 for an academic school year.

So, for roughly nine months between September and June, a renter will pay approximately \$750 each month. Keep in mind that this \$750 is paying for a student to live within an apartmentlike situation, but in the same, traditional, dorm-style rooms offered by state universities. This cost is only available if a student lives with another person in that room.

Note also that payment systems within the Residence Life programs aren't offered on a month-to-month basis. Payment is instead collected in bulk at several predetermined points throughout the year.

This concept may not be a good fit for a majority of Columbia's open admissions population. The school is filled with a number of students from lower-middle-class families, as well as students from working-class families who are forced to support themselves and pay their way through school.

Students taking out \$10,000 loans each semester just so they can get a premier education from Columbia cannot afford more than \$700 each month to bunk blocks away from class.

They'll be lucky if they can land a place with a couple people in Roger's Park for \$350 each month. But that's the beauty of being an artist in the city of Chicago.

Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly told the Chronicle last week that exceptions will be made to this mandatory living situation.

His comment may or may not include, though, the exemption of incoming freshmen from living in the superdorm due to income restrictions.

But, he shouldn't have to even men-

tion it. Students shouldn't have to worry about scraping up another pile of dough to live in this dorm-style environment.

The University Center of Chicago is by all means impressive. Watching another floor light up each week as the building gets closer and closer to completion is nothing short of marvelous.

If it were a traditional, state-of-the-art apartment complex, it would certainly have every right to charge competitive prices in this constantly developing area of the city.

But those prices shouldn't be expected of students who don't choose to or cannot pay that level of rent.

Requiring students to live in the South Loop, a section of Chicago that is very much a part of Columbia's campus, is a good idea.

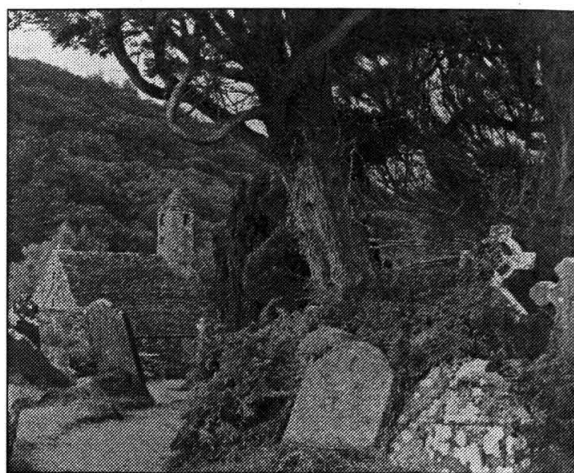
Tossing kids into an environment where they have no choice but to meet new people their own age who are undertaking endeavors similar to theirs is highly beneficial. It could very well solidify the cohesiveness between city and college life within walking distance of the school's main buildings.

It could be a major selling factor for the school, too—especially in the event a mother with a nervous stomach is skeptical about having her child commute via the el to school.

The idea would be more feasible, though, if Columbia officials re-evaluate the cost and payment of rent.

Unless that rent drops to under \$600 per month, to be paid each month instead of twice a semester in lump sums, the budding fine artists of the Midwest and beyond might have to look for another school.

Exposure



Charles Kushner/Chronicle

U.S. drug prices out of order

Lauren Esposito
The Battalion (Texas A&M U.)

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE STATION, Texas—When a person goes to the pharmacy to pick up medication, whether it's antibiotics for an infection or blood pressure medication for the month, he or she does not expect to spend a week's salary on just a few pills.

But this is rapidly changing. While most Americans can say their prescriptions are a medical necessity, the bill that comes along with the pills tends to make the consumer more ill.

Consumers are picking up their drugs now and wondering just how much they are going to have to shell out to obtain better quality health. To ensure that Americans have inexpensive access to quality prescription drugs, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration needs to follow the example set by Canada.

Last year, a Canadian health agency reported that drug prices in the United States were 67 percent higher than the prices in Canada, just a few miles north of the border.

"We pay more for prescription drugs than any other country in the industrialized world," said Joel Barkin, spokesman for Rep. Bernard Sanders, (I-Vt). He is correct in his statement, and has led bus trips to Canada to purchase prescription drugs.

One of the reasons drug prices in Canada are much lower than the drug prices in the United States is that in Canada, the price for drugs still under patent—meaning that they have no generic substitute—are regulated by a federal review board.

In the United States, there is no price regulation.

This is why the new "wonder drug" being advertised on television costs so much more than the "wonder drug" from last season, the one that now has three different generic brands behind it.

Canadian health insurers also base their drug prices and coverage on clinical evaluation of the effectiveness of the drugs. This leads to the identification of therapeutically similar drugs and the ability to negotiate with the different makers of the drugs for the best price to be offered to the consumer.

What Americans have resorted to is filling their prescriptions through a Canadian pharmacy to combat the high American prices received at the "convenient" drugstore around the corner. The Canadian International

Pharmacy Association estimates that Internet-based Canadian pharmacy companies now serve about 1 million U.S. customers, up from the estimated 10,000 just four years ago. The FDA has noticed this upward trend in the illegal importation of drugs and is begging for a major crackdown on the lawbreakers.

One of the FDA's major arguments in their crackdown of Canadian drug imports is that the imports are unregulated, and this deems them as health hazards for Americans.

The FDA deems the safety of the drugs as its key issue. However, the Canadian and American drugs were most likely made in the same factory to begin with and shipped out at the same time, according to The Associated Press. The FDA says that once the drugs leave the United States, they are no longer constrained to the strict safety procedures and guidelines that U.S. drugs must follow to make it to the hands of the consumer.

Although the FDA may have its consumers' best interest in mind, the Canadian health ministry went on record in May saying that it will officially be responsible for the safety and quality of the prescription drugs that come out of Canada and go into the American consumer's hands.

In reference to Canadian drug safety, Rep. Sherrod Brown, (D-Ohio) said, "There's never been one shred of evidence, in my committee or anywhere else, that the Canadian drug safety process is not as rigorous as ours."

The FDA is not focusing its wrath on the consumers, just on the suppliers. They have already ordered numerous companies to cease their operations, and threatened to file suit against them if they continued to supply Canadian drugs to the American consumer.

For now, there are still several companies in operation importing drugs to the United States for a fraction of the price the general public has to pay when receiving its medication at the local drugstore. If the FDA continues on the path it is traveling down, the remainder of the companies in operation will soon be shut down.

American consumers need to demand that the FDA start paying closer attention to how Canada operates its drug plans, and try to implement more of its procedures into U.S. pharmaceutical endeavors. Or, consumers may just need to invest in a good frequent flier program so they can buy their drugs elsewhere.

Cubs guarantee victory in 2015

You may or may not have noticed last week, but the Chicago Cubs have made a return to postseason play. Thousands of die-hard fans are coming together to celebrate the exciting possibility of a trip to the World Series.

For those time-traveling enthusiasts keeping tabs, Dusty Baker and the boys might actually be 12 years ahead of schedule.

In Back to the Future 2, as Marty McFly walks around his hometown of Hill Valley in 2015, he discovers, along with the hover boards and flying cars, that the Cubs have won the World Series against Miami.

The film was released in 1989, the same year the Cubs lost the National League Championship Series to the San Francisco Giants 4-1. A professional baseball team in Miami was merely a possibility at the time.

Fast forward to 2003: The Florida Marlins, who play in Miami, won the World Series in 1997, while the Cubs continue to do everything they can to get back to the promised land.

Some so-called "experts" say the Cubs have a legitimate shot this year at heading back to the World Series for the first time since 1945. I'm sure there are plenty of White Sox fans who would disagree.

If only we could hop into the Delorian with Doc Brown and travel to the end of October to see how it all plays out.

"Hey Doc," Marty would say in that squeaky Michael J. Fox sort of way. "We should take these guys back to 1908 for a little inspiration."

That's a long way to travel for some inspiration, but it's been that long

since the North Side used "Cubs" and "World Series" in the same sentence.

Although the Wrigley Field faithful are the most impatient fans in baseball, they're also some of the best fans. Chicago will go down in history as one of the greatest sports towns in America. Win or lose, fans always support their teams.

No matter what team has your allegiance, you can't deny the energy and excitement in this city right now. As of press time, the Cubbies and Atlanta Braves were tied at one win a piece in their best-of-five Division Series.

By this week, they might still be in the hunt, or they might be making golf plans with Frank Thomas and the White Sox.

This is the agony and ecstasy of being a fan. You can pray to God all you want, but it's not going to improve the situation. The team with the most momentum is going to get the World Series championship title.

We'd like it to be the Cubs against the Boston Red Sox, the two cities that have been the most scrutinized in the history of the game. If either has the opportunity to celebrate a world championship, the winning city would most likely burn to the ground in a blaze of glory.



Ryan Duggan/Chronicle

Whether we pop the cork on the champagne or not (sorry, Sammy), it's been one hell of a ride to the postseason. We've watched a team with a lot of guts fight off some adversity and bring some grit back to the Windy City—grit that's missing from the locker rooms of the Bears, Bulls, Blackhawks and dare I say the White Sox right now.

What if the Cubs lose? Heart broken fans will feel the same sting they've felt for almost 100 years. If Doc Brown and Marty McFly have anything to say about it, the Cubs still have a championship to look forward to in 2015. Can Cubs fans hold on for 12 more years?

COLUMBIA'S VOICES

Editorial out of touch, not library

I would like to take exception to your overly harsh and highly generalized statement in a recent editorial, "The library doesn't come close to meeting the needs of its customers" [Wi-Fi? Why Not?," Sept. 29]. In case you haven't noticed, perhaps because of your own infrequent visits to the library, there have been substantial improvements in services over the last academic year. New computer stations on the first floor, expanded work stations on other floors, a new cafe overlooking the lake, increased online services that can be accessed from off-campus, an expanded and redesigned website, new seating areas, etc. These are all welcome improvements to a library that already has a helpful and highly knowledgeable staff. You may also not know that students from UIC, the School of the Art Institute, DePaul and Roosevelt frequently use our library because of its excellent collections in art and design, architecture, film, photography, and theater. The reports I hear from undergraduate and graduate students is that the library possesses a range of excellent resources (books, journals, slides, films, Internet services) and a very dedicated staff. This certainly comes very close to meeting most of our needs.

—Paul M. Camic, Ph.D.
Liberal Education

Chronicle pension coverage confusing

I appreciate your thorough coverage of the college pension plan changes. Some statements in Adam Ferington's article in the Sept. 29, 2003 issue ["College approves pension plans"] may, however, be misleading.

The pension situation was not a "battle," but a decision and negotiation; the pension plans are for full-time faculty and staff in the college, not for faculty only. The new defined contribution plan shifts all risk for pension funds to the participants. Columbia did not scrutinize "tenure assessment" (whatever that means) in discussing pension fund changes, but did consider statistics and interest rates. Columbia is not "switching" its pension plan, but replacing an old defined benefit plan with a new defined contribution plan (a 403(b)). Participants in the plan assume all (not a "degree of") risk for their accounts. I don't know what \$9 million and \$11.5 million refer to in Rich's quoted statement, but I suspect it is a misquote, since professor Rich is very clear in his discussions of these matters. His final quote is certainly apt and to the point.

Thanks again for your concerned coverage of this situation.

—Joan L. Erdman
Liberal Education
Pension fund trustee

Bad bets in California

Adam J. Ferington
Commentary Editor

Politics is a peculiar thing; a beast that feeds and moves on its own accord, mutually susceptible and seemingly impervious. It is, like romance and war, a young man's game, equal parts courtship and battle—anyone old enough to be involved knows better and it is only the youthful and foolish who indulge in it so passionately.

Part of the sport is the chase; the long graceful strides, the panicked gallops, the rolls of sweat off your back. It's always bad business to bet on the wrong horse, aside from the disappointment that comes with backing a loser is the profound dread that someone is cutting their teeth on your misfortune. Sometimes we level our stakes knowing that, despite their pedigree and spit, our rides don't have a snowball's chance in hell, but we do it anyway because we believe in the ride, damn it. You can hedge your bets, play all the angles in the hopes of pulling off some meat, but you'd have to be mad to purposely bet on the wrong horse.

Slide back to 2000, bad year that it was. There are people who still feel marked from that black November; their reasons are their own, but mine share none of their culpability. I and precious few of my brethren took sides, polarized the race in hopes of gaining a few precious inches of mud, just enough to give us an equal foothold for the next big race. I voted Green you see, did what some people saw as pitching away my vote for a lost cause, and joined the 2 percent brigade.

And I'd do it all again.

It is not unmitigated cynicism to admit that the political process in this country is seriously flawed and will almost certainly get worse before it gets better. If you don't know it outright, you at least suspect it, down where your chilly heart beats. But politics isn't always about winning. In a system dependent on money and exposure, we shouldn't expect anything new, anything to change. But if we're lucky, we can sneak in a few new ideas, put the scare into people.

This week Arianna Huffington (don't say, "who?") bowed out of California's recall election with a deft curtsy after being embroiled in a nasty verbal fisticuff match with Arnold Schwarzenegger. Huffington was one of the 2 percent; an odd bird, going from far right to moderate with a bit of a left shake, spitting poison and sucking out marrow and generally confusing the hell out of people. I like Huffington; I have fond memories of her and Al Franken cozying in flannel jammies, bickering about politics like an old sexless couple fighting over spare teeth. She had heart and guts and a line of integrity rare in politicians of either lean, which is what makes this even harder.

We all knew she wasn't going to win, but we were hoping she would have at least taken a chunk out of Ah-nold's momentum, crippled his stride a bit.

"I'm pulling out because I believe now that there is a clear and present danger of the state being taken over by the Pete Wilson-Arnold Schwarzenegger machine," Huffington said on Sept. 30 prior to the official announcement on CNN. However, she neglected to specify her plans, stating, "I'm not at the moment going to be endorsing a replacement candidate. ... The most important thing right now is to defeat the recall and I'm going to ask my voters to vote strategically to avert a Schwarzenegger victory."

Huffington was no politician, which is why she was good for the job. No one in their right mind would let inmates run the asylum, but it's the norm in this country. As the season goes on, fewer and fewer candidates drop out, switch their support or go mad and self-destruct their platforms. And with the primaries for the 2004 election gearing up, the same thing will happen, leaving us with the identical old pieces of spoiled fruit to choose from.

I suppose I should get used to it, pull in and find a warm place to couch, because it isn't about to change anytime soon. But I still feel bad for Huffington; it's always tough to see an old horse that can't finish the race.

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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Ryan Duggan/Chronicle

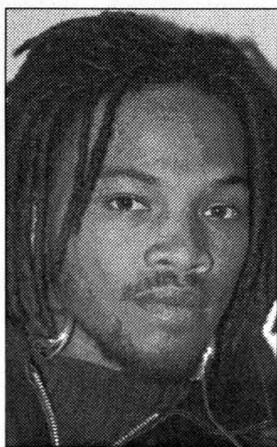
Face the public: the Chronicle photo poll

Question: What do you think about the new Soldier Field?



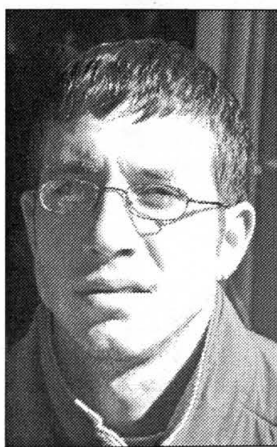
"I don't like it ... it looks alien."

—Toni Bingerman
Freshman, Film



"What's the point of it if they aren't winning?"

—Jerome Sally
Junior, Sound Engineering



"It looks a little ridiculous ... too futuristic. I don't like it."

—Joshua Ban
Junior, Music Business

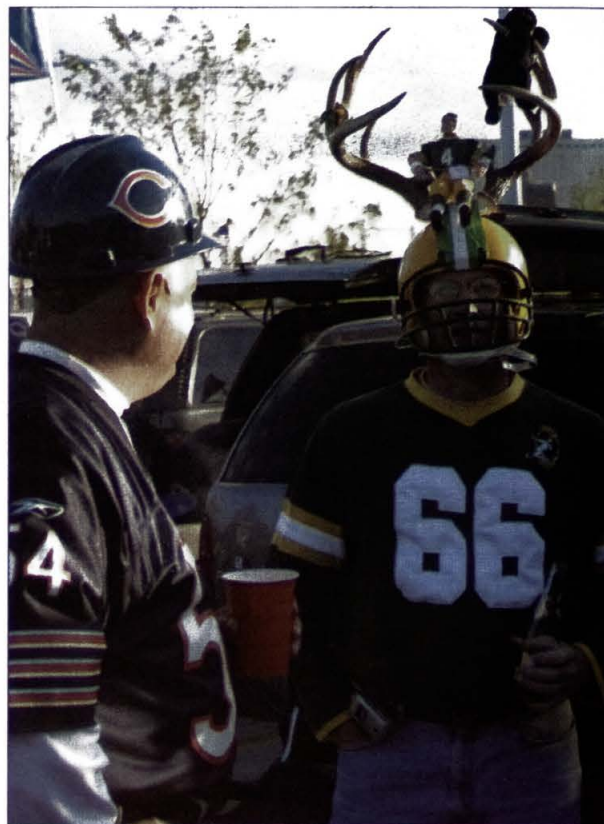
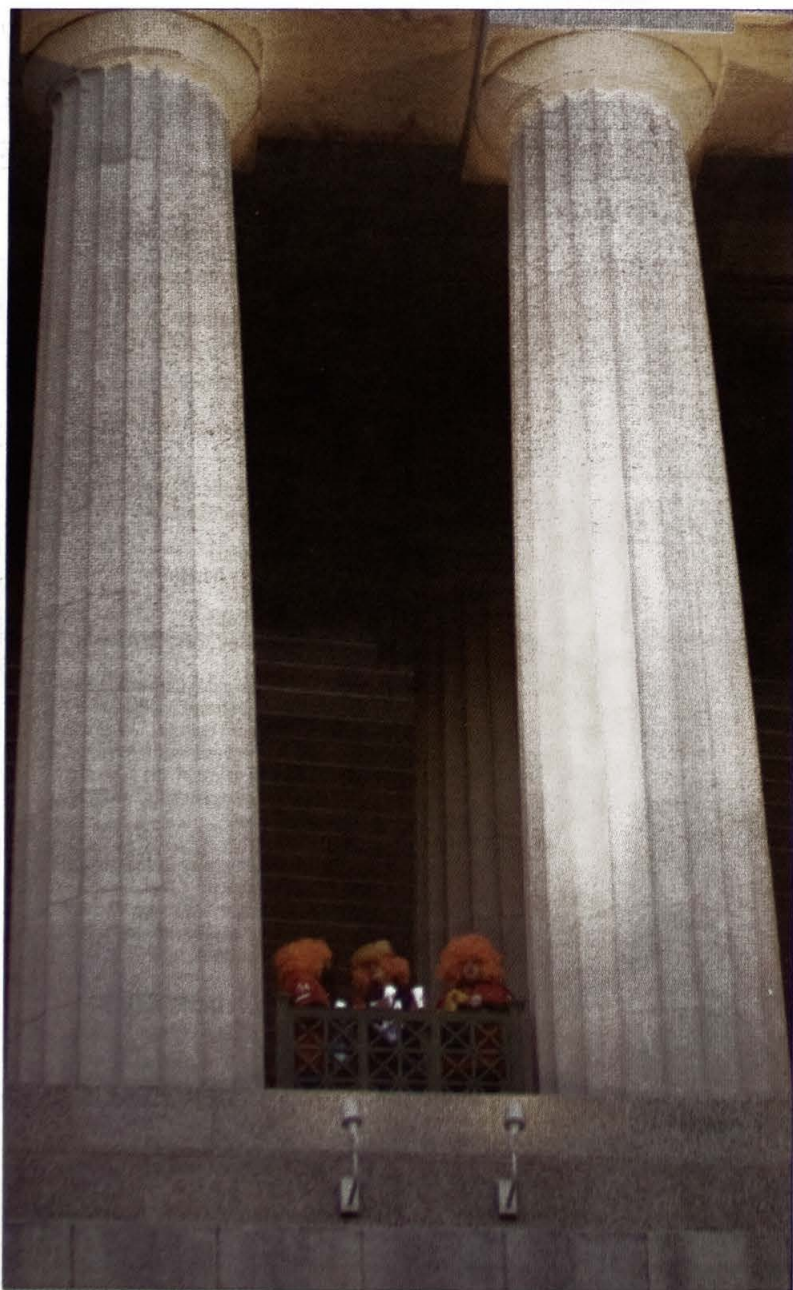


"Aside from it looking horrible, they should've spent the money on education."

—Sarah Koziel
Sophomore, Photography



DA' F

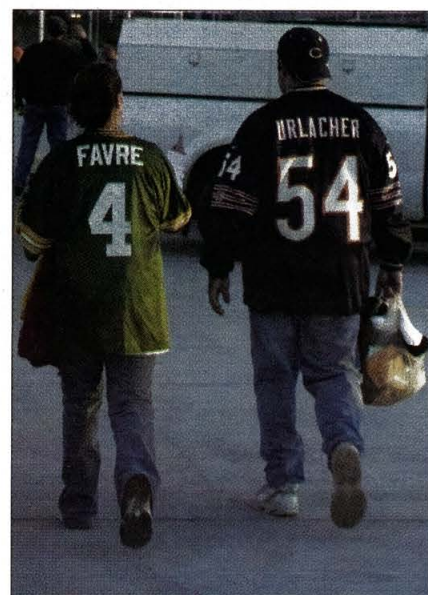
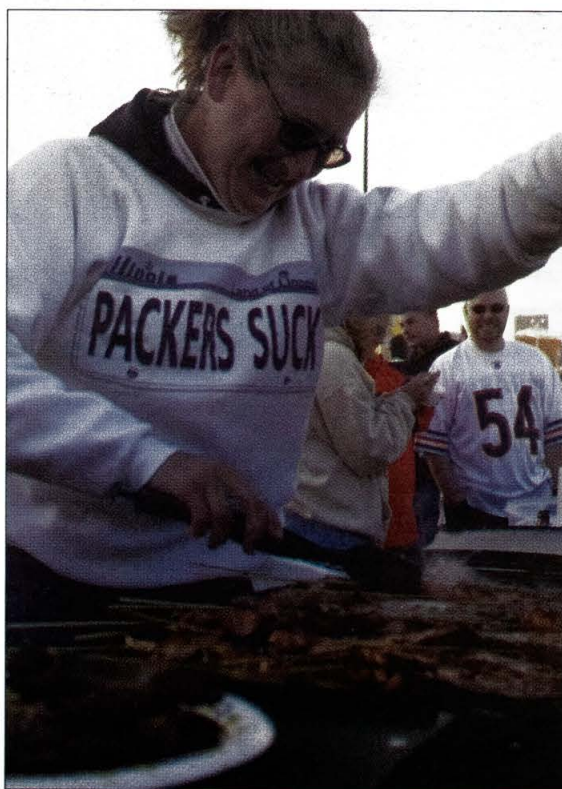
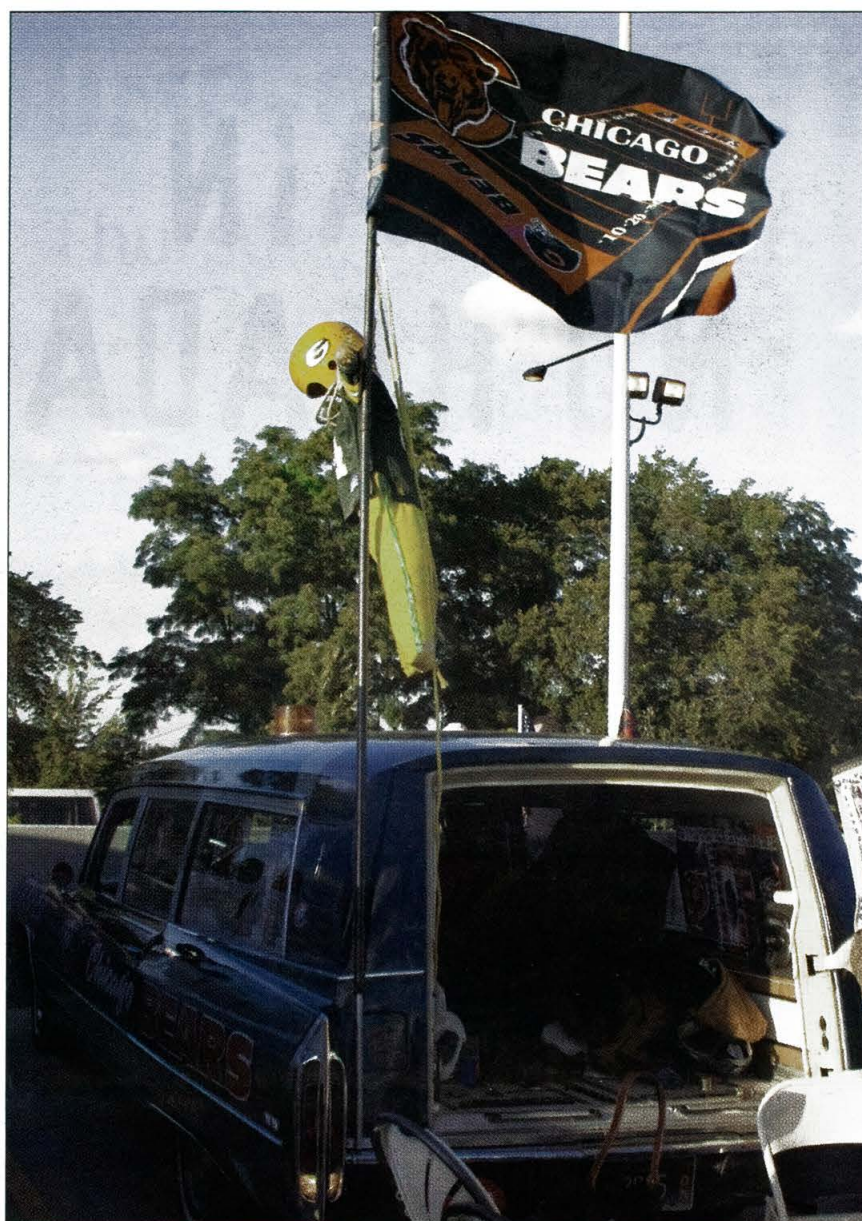


DA' FANS

What is it about Bears fans and tailgaters, and the long time rivalry with the Green Bay Packers? This story is about Bears fans and what they like to wear, what some people cook, and how they act. At Soldier Field, fans are excited that they are where they are supposed to be. The fan's clothing ranges from orange wigs to a "Packers suck" t-shirt. The place that fans bring on Sunday, or in this case Monday, which is the home one. Once you get into the tailgating area, the smell of food can be heard. The people I met were the friendliest people I have ever met. They eat burgers, hot dogs and some of the best chicken I have ever had. They and enjoy the game and see what the new season brings.

FANS

Photos by Andrew J. Scott



valry between the Bears and the
like to do before the game, what
ow that the Bears are at Soldier
—back home in the Windy City.
-shirt, and is a part of the atmos-
akes the games so fun for every-
drive you nuts if you are hungry.
They welcomed me and fed me
The fans are there to just relax,
Soldier Field has to offer.

—Andrew J. Scott

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Road Trippin'

o Dynamic duo hits highway for lessons on life

By Doris Dadayan
A&E Editor

They call it "the noise," the constant "blah blah blah" of society trying to inflict their ideas and advice onto an individual about what they should do with their lives, the one thing that'll try to stop them from doing what they're truly passionate about.

For Mike Marriner and Nathan Gebhard, the 26-year-old authors of the book *Roadtrip Nation: A Guide to Discovering Your Path in Life*, that "noise" was what prompted them to hit the road to discover the options that life had to offer.

Three years ago, the native Laguna Beach, Calif., surfer boys had more than enough "noise" to listen to. As they were getting ready to graduate from Pepperdine University, Marriner with a degree in biology, and Gebhard with a degree in business, they both came to the realization that after listening to the advice of others, they ended up choosing career paths that were certainly not the "roads" that they wanted to take in life.

They ended up learning more valuable lessons just driving around the United States than any textbook could ever have given them.

"We were kinda put into those traditional 'boxes,' you know 'doctor,' 'consultant' that kind of thing. And we just got curious as to what else is out there, you

know? Like, if that's all that you've ever been exposed to, how can you ever figure out what you want to do in your life?" Marriner said in a recent telephone interview.

"So then we thought, 'why don't we get a big green motor home and travel around the country and interview people from all walks of life?'" Marriner said. "But we wanted to interview people that are outside of those 'boxes,' you know, people that have defined their own roads of life."

So with a couple of cameras from Best Buy and no filming experience, the best friends decided to fight "the noise."

They ditched the internships they had lined up and spent over two summers traveling to 40 states filming a documentary on interviews with more than 80 business leaders, according to Marriner, in their 40-foot long key-lime pie colored RV.

"Oh, [the Winnebago is] horrible. It's a 1985 motor home and it had like over 100,000 miles on it, and it was, like, breaking down. We didn't really have a lot of money when we first started this. We bought it for like eight grand. A lot of it was credit card finance," Marriner said. "It was brown and old-school, and we're like, 'we're totally going to funkify it, paint it neon green.' It broke down all across the country and now we've become expert mechanics."

With the help of Joanne



Photograph Courtesy of Roadtrip Nation

Mike Marriner (left) and Nathan Gebhard will be stopping by Columbia College for a screening of their upcoming documentary 'The Open Road' on Oct 7 at 10 a.m.

Gordon, a Chicago native and a reporter for Forbes Magazine, Marriner and Gebhard released *Roadtrip Nation: A Guide to Discovering Your Path in Life* in April 2003.

In their book, Marriner and Gebhard profile various successful film directors, business entrepreneurs, scientists and designers in America such as Maine's Manny the Lobsterman, Chicago's Charlie Trotter from Charlie Trotter's Restaurant and Mike Egeck, president of The North Face. Throughout the book, the authors share insight and advice given by the entrepreneurs on how to make it in the business world, along with ways in how they went about getting those interviews.

This fall, Roadtrip Nation is on a college campus tour implementing their program in college career centers called "Behind the Wheel." They will be selecting a three-person student team for summer 2004 to go out and interview entrepreneurs for their own road trip, which will be the next documentary for their eight-part television series and for their next book.

"That's really the model that we see Roadtrip Nation being. It's more about selecting students every year to hit the road on their own summer road trip. It's more student focused, you know, for students, by students," Marriner said. "Essentially, we're looking for people that have good road trip chemistry, that'll be good

representatives of Roadtrip Nation, good at interviewing, good journalists, you know, that kind of thing. People that are just really authentic and sincere."

Roadtrip Nation will be at the Hokin Annex, in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave, for a screening of their upcoming documentary called 'The Open Road' on Oct. 7 at 10 a.m. Their lime-green RV will be parked outside the Wabash Campus Building where students can look inside, watch the DVD film footage, and talk to the members of Roadtrip Nation. 'The Open Road,' presented by State Farm, will air on Thurs. Oct. 9, 10:30 p.m. on WTTW-TV. For more information visit www.roadtripnation.com.



Joe Kang/Chronicle

Film and video student Erik Strenz examines the new exhibit at the Glass Curtain Gallery at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Exhibit displays FBI's undercover operations

o Arnold Mesches subject of investigation at Glass Curtain

By Adam K. Zakroczymski
Staff Writer

Being tracked by the FBI, having friends who are special informants and having personal belongings raided by the agency is usually something only seen in the movies.

For Arnold Mesches, this was a reality for almost 27 years. As an outspoken artist, Mesches was watched by the FBI for having possible communist ties and being rather outspoken on his governmental views.

According to Mesches, he wasn't the only one being followed. He was merely one of the many active leftist in Los Angeles. "I wasn't singled out, I happened to be an artist. I made it

into art and other people read it," Mesches said.

The FBI knew almost everything about him.

People he taught, dated and talked to on the phone were suspected by Mesches to be informants.

Using the Freedom of Information Act, Mesches got a hold of almost 760 pages of documentation that the FBI had compiled on him.

He was captivated by the overall appearance of these documents. "What intrigued me the most, aside from the nostalgia they obviously generated, was how the sheer aesthetic beauty of the pages themselves, the bold, black, slashing strokes looked like Franz Kline color sketches with typewriter

words peeking through," Mesches said in his artist statement.

In his exhibit titled "FBI Files," Mesches artfully compiled the documents, making paintings combined with collages of newspaper and magazine cutouts, drawings and FBI memorandums.

These works are featured in Columbia's Glass Curtain Gallery. Nearly 50 extremely colorful and abstract paintings make up the exhibit, along with four large paintings, that include enlarged, painted versions of FBI memos.

Using the FBI files as a foundation for most of his pieces, Mesches surrounds them with other images that

See FBI, Page 25

THIS WEEK in arts & entertainment

Mon. 10/06	Tues. 10/07	Wed. 10/08	Thurs. 10/09	Friday 10/10	Sat. 10/11	Sun. 10/12
Mos Def 6:30 p.m. Metro Yoko Noge's Jazz Me Blues 8 p.m. HotHouse 31 E. Balbo Drive DJ Caliente spins Salsa, Mambo and ChaChaCha 6 p.m. - 12 midnight Rancho Luna Del Caribe 7 p.m. - 2 a.m. Disco Bingo 10 p.m. Circuit 3641 N. Halsted St. Chicagoeven Pumpkin Plaza 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Daley plaza 55 W. Randolph St.	Carol Jackson leather paintings and Oli Watt 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Street Level Gallery 9 Highwood Ave., Highwood PHAT TUESDAYZ: Family Tree 9 p.m. HotHouse 31 E. Balbo Drive Latino Bestworks Columbia College Library William Dickerson paint- ings and watercolors 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Platt Fine Art Gallery 561 W. Diversey Parkway \$2 off martinis Atmospheres 5355 N. Clark St.	Dashboard Confessional 6 p.m. Congress Theatre Fra-Fra Sound 8 p.m. HotHouse 31 E. Balbo Drive Color and Light: The Art of Stained Glass 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Naper Settlement 523 S. Webster St., Naperville Insect: 105 Years of Collecting 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Field Museum Heroic Grace: The Chinese Martial Arts Films "Come Drink with Me" 6 p.m. 164 N. State St.	Anna Pales mixed media on canvas 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Gruen Galleries 226 W. Superior St. Tales from Mom's Crypt Seven: The Thing Beneath Tiff's Chin 8 p.m. The Conservatory 4210 N. Lincoln Ave. Michael Barretto's Hula Blues 8 p.m. HotHouse 31 E. Balbo Drive Gimme Shelter: a film by Albert and Davis Maysles 6:30 p.m. 1104 S. Wabash Rm 407	DJ Shon Dervis 1:30 a.m. The Note 1565 N. Milwaukee Ave. Lennie Niehaus 8 p.m. Athenaeum Theatre 2936 N. Southport Ave Oscar Brown Jr. and Maggie Brown: A Birthday Celebration of a Chicago Legend 9:30 p.m. HotHouse 31 E. Balbo Drive Mike Gordon 7:30 p.m. The Vic Theatre Lesbian dance party with deejays Extreme and Romeo Dragon Room 809 W. Evergreen Ave.	Live acoustic music Charleston 2076 N. Hoyne Ave. Baby Wants Candy ImprovOlympic 8 p.m. 3541 N. Clark St. Chapungu: Custom & Legend, A Culture in Stone 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Garfield Park Conservatory 300 N. Central Park Strange Days 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Museum of Contemporary Art 220 E. Chicago Ave. Live salsa music Reunion 811 W. Lake St.	Blind Tasting Live Bait Theater 7 p.m. 3914 N. Clark St. What U Laffin' At? Comedy Jam 6:30 p.m. HotHouse 31 E. Balbo Drive \$4 cosmos Moxie 3517 N. Clark St. The All-American Rejects 6 p.m. The Riviera Theatre 4746 N. Racine Ave. Buddy Branch 9:30 p.m. Buddy Guy's Legends 754 W. Randolph St.

The Weekly Dish

Reality TV has nothing on "life's reality"



By Doris Dadayan
A&E Editor

I'm ashamed to admit it, but I'm obsessed with reality TV. No matter how many years have gone by, I just can't seem to get enough of it. Whether it's the 20th season of MTV's "Unreal World"/"Road Rules and Regulations Challenge," "Joe Schmo-is-my-ex-boyfriend," "Paradise Motel," "The Bachelor's Bachelor," "For Money, not Love," "Temptation Mountain" or "The Broke Millionaire," it makes no difference to me.

I watch these shows and their marathons religiously, all the while worrying about the characters, rooting for my favorite players to win and secretly wishing that I, too, could travel in a Winnebago with a survival kit and little money to participate in such athletic feats as skydiving, tagging live sharks and eating insects.

There's just some kind of perverse pleasure in observing "normal" people competing for money; fighting for their survival; confessing to the world who they hate and who they love; hooking up with everyone around them and then breaking up; having their egos bruised when they lose; seeing them depressed, then happy, then depressed again.

Reality TV shows are great. I mean, why spend months, even years working on making a movie script when there are perfectly good realistic situations in the world like competing to be the last voted off an island to win \$1 million, competing to be the last one voted out of a talent competition to win \$1 million and/or a record contract, and competing to be the last one to be voted off an island to win the heart of another who is testing their relationship with some other single and, oh, also winning \$1 million?

So, in lieu of my newfound discovery that I seriously need some reality TV rehab, I have conjured up a reality TV show that is reality outside of television, with no script needed, that I'd like to pitch to MTV, CBS or Fox called: "SURVIVOR: Chicago's Bar/Nightlife Scene."

Forget trying to survive on a deserted island. Drinking snake's blood and being buried alive? Oh, please.

You want a real challenge? Try making it out alive and emotionally unscathed after a Saturday night of bar-hopping with the best of what Chicagoland has to offer.

The premise of this new reality show would be 10 unsuspecting contestants (five men and five women) dropped off in some hole-in-the-wall bar in Chicago's South Loop or the meatpacking district where they must stay the entire night in the jungle that is the bar scene.

The challenge would be to defeat the sexual predators that will be lurking in the dark corners of the venues with quick-thinking tactics and physical strength. Random objects such as straws and ice cubes may be used as a form of protection.

The predators will initiate the night by offering both the men and the women players numerous alcoholic beverages while throwing out lame lines and offering unmentionable propositions.

These creatures will range in all ages, sizes, occupations and educational backgrounds. They will have no morals, no class and no respect for anyone and will boldly go where no man has ever gone before, never willing to accept NO for an answer.

Those that are able to make it out of the jungle that is the local bar scene while simultaneously fighting off the enemy will be handsomely rewarded and will go on to host their own talk show and have their own perfume called Prey. Perhaps even star in an action movie.

Isn't our own reality so much more entertaining without all those commercial breaks?

Sweet 'dreams' of Chicago

○ Artist displays dreams of Chicagoans on the walls of the Cultural Center

By Jamie Murnane
Staff Writer

Washington, D.C.-based artist Alan Stone brings to life the dreams of more than 300 Chicagoans in his newest installation, "Chicago Dreams," currently on display at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St.

After having been part of a group exhibit at the cultural center a few years ago, Stone was invited back to do his own exhibit. While spending several weeks in Chicago, Stone interviewed more than 300 Chicago residents about their most familiar or recurrent dreams.

"It's something everyone does and they seem fairly comfortable talking about it," Stone said.

Stone captured each person's vivid descriptions on film and displayed the unedited video on each of the four walls of the exhibit. Two people are constantly shown on each wall, surrounding exhibition viewers with eight 10-foot-high talking heads.

With the help of recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate Joe Pompei, Stone was able to add state-of-the-art sound technology, the Audio Spotlight, to his exhibit.

The Audio Spotlight is like a beam of light and can be directed toward certain people while remaining inaudible to others.

Stone said that the choice of audio accompaniment is very suitable for "Chicago Dreams" because, "The sound is as isolated as your own dreams are in your head."

Among the hundreds of diverse faces appearing in the exhibit are those of Wilco's

Jeff Tweedy and Leroy Bach. Tweedy's floating head recounts his vivid dream of an attempted assault turned philosophical musing.

In his dream, Tweedy tells of a man who prepares to throw a punch his way until he points out to his potential attacker that they are surrounded by a large group of people watching their every move. Tweedy tells his dream assailing that he was responsible for bringing everyone there. His dream then ends abruptly. After his dictation, Tweedy's head fades out and another fades into its place. The entire exhibit operates this way,

aiding to the continuous movement and dialogue that makes "Chicago Dreams" so interesting.

Many of the dreams being described in Stone's exhibit are very much alike. Stone said that there was no intended theme. If any of the dreams sound similar to others, it is purely coincidental. As dreams of anxiety, life, death and love are so universal, Stone said his exhibit could have been in any city.

"Chicago Dreams" is at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. through Nov. 16.



Photo Courtesy of ChicagoDreams.org

Jeff Tweedy and Leroy Bach (above) are just two of the hundreds of "talking heads" that appear in the installation.

One family, 10 days, one Third World

By Janice Rhoshalle Littlejohn
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Russell family likes comfort: their three-bedroom, three-bathroom suburban home in Birmingham, Ala.; a packed refrigerator with an automatic ice machine; central air conditioning; and, when mom doesn't feel like cooking, fast food restaurants.

So why would they trade all these middle-class amenities for a sweltering mud hut in Lungu, Ghana, with no electricity, no plumbing and no golden arches for thousands of miles?

"It just sounded like it would be a blast," said Lynne Russell, who with husband Scott and their two children signed up for one of the cross-cultural adventures on the National Geographic Channels' "World's Apart." The 13-episode series premieres 8 p.m., Oct. 6.

Each week, one American family spends 10 days with a local household in a remote Third World village, participating in their customs, rituals and livelihood.

"We thought, wouldn't it be amusing if we took a whole family and all of a sudden their neighborhood was totally different," said Glenda Hersh, the series' co-executive producer.

Added partner Steven Weinstock: "You take away some of the basic things we're familiar with, and project them into an environment that is culturally distinct and interesting, you're going to put them through both a psychological and emotional journey that's going to give them an appreciation of what really matters and what's important."

Lynne Russell said she jumped at the chance for what seemed the vacation of a lifetime, but acknowledged, "I had no idea of what we would be going into. Even what I imagined was not exactly what we encountered."

For the first few days, the Russells had to adjust to the culture shock of living in a primitive village with extreme poverty, unappetizing food, rudimentary toilet facilities, horrendous smells and harsh terrain.

"Essentially these families are cultural explorers," said Andrew Wilk, executive vice president of programming and production of the Washington, D.C.-based National Geographic Channel.

One reality that didn't sit well for the feminist-minded American women in the series was the gender bias inherent in many Third World cultures: The women do the bulk of the work—the cooking, cleaning and child rearing—while the men have the luxuries of free time.

"There was definitely a division," said insurance agent Deborah Johnson-Noble.

She, husband Daryle and their two children recently returned to their middle-class digs in St. Louis from an excursion in Mongolia.

"I had never physically worked that hard in my life," Deborah said. "I worked eight and nine hours, and I was still supposed to cook dinner for my family and he's just sitting there because he can't help."

Daryle giggled. "Actually I enjoyed that," said the veteran policeman. "We should have that custom here."

As blacks in an Asiatic territory, the Nobles said racial differences were, surprisingly, a non-issue.

In most episodes, the racial differences between the visiting and host families are obvious, but more apparent are the universal bonds that the two families share.

That was one of the lessons learned by the Palmer family of East Brunswick, N.J., during their stay with the Orguba family of Kenya. Chris, an engineer, wife Susan, a music teacher, and their three children were featured in the pilot episode, which aired in April and will be repeated Nov. 10.

Under the influence:



By Matthew Jaster

OBSERVATIONS OF AN ENTERTAINING WORLD

○ Actor Bruce Willis offered \$1 million to the first soldier who captures former Iraq dictator Saddam Hussein. I'm offering \$5 to Bruce Willis to join Cybill Shepard in a "Moonlighting" reunion special.

○ Is it necessary to release 12 different versions of a film on DVD?

○ OASIS: Former British band of egomaniacs or an ill-tempered computer program, plotting total world domination?

○ Jessica Simpson makes Anna Nicole Smith look like a nuclear physicist.

○ When is roller-skating going to make a comeback?

○ Ironically, rapper C-Murder was convicted of murder last week. In related news, Geraldo Rivera was not convicted of journalism.

○ Remember Elia Kazan for his body of work, not his politics.

○ I don't feel like I save any money with my Jewel-Osco Preferred Card.

○ Kordell Stewart spent plenty of time admiring the new grass at Soldier Field while playing Green Bay last week.

○ Happiness equals a two-hour car trip, windows down, singing along with your favorite CD.

○ Rush Limbaugh needs a good healthy kick in the ass.

○ Seriously, roller-skating is ripe for a comeback; bring on the hair, the neon, the couples only skating. It's way overdue.

○ Halloween is hands down the greatest holiday on the face of this planet.

○ White Sox fans spent last week admiring the Atlanta Braves.



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The Field
Museum

The Centennial Tribute to Louis Leakey program is presented with generous support from the Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation, Sofitel Chicago Water Tower, Fluid, Inc., Chicago Public Radio, and Robert Mondavi Winery.

Quick Pics at the Movies



Typical action fare in 'Rundown'

It's hardly a stretch for The Rock to star in his own action adventure film. The wrestling superstar has been playing make believe his entire career. What is surprising is how comfortable he looks in a role typically handed out to Stallone or Schwarzenegger.

The Rundown starts out very promising. Beck (The Rock), is a no nonsense tough guy who gets paid to retrieve things, whether it be a debt or an actual person. He's sent down to the Amazon to get Travis (Seann William Scott), a smart-ass treasure seeker parading around the jungle in search of a lost relic.

These two characters get lost in the jungle together, which creates some clever dialogue and slapstick. Hatcher (Christopher Walken) is the gold mining emperor chasing after the relic himself.

Peter Berg, who directed *Very Bad Things*, is behind the camera on *The Rundown*. The first 30 minutes are entertaining, but it quickly gets bogged down in the usual action adventure clichés. The rapid editing and hard rocking soundtrack don't help make a case for originality.

The biggest problem in the film is the casting of Scott, an actor who portrays his Stifler character from the *American Pie* series in every film that he makes. He's not funny, he's not believable and the wise cracking shtick has really worn out its welcome.

With the right script and the right director, The Rock could easily become the biggest action adventure star in Hollywood. *The Rundown* hints at his potential, but the film suffers from too many clichés to generate any real interest. The torch will eventually be passed to the People's Champion (The Rock's moniker) and let's hope that a decent supporting cast and script come along with it. —Matthew Jaster



Trains, tragedy and transformation in 'Station Agent'

It's easy to feel disconnected these days. The fast paced, technological world we live in whips us around like a carnival ride. There are times when you want to drop everything and just walk away. *The Station Agent* is a beautifully crafted film that explores these feelings with simple sincerity.

The film is about Finbar "Fin" McBride (Peter Dinklage), a somber dwarf fascinated with trains. He enjoys the way they look, the way they move and the history behind them. A model train store is where he spends most of his time, working with a close friend who shares his enthusiasm.

A tragedy, however, changes everything. Fin moves into an old train depot in the middle of New Jersey, in search of solitude. It's in this town he realizes he's not the only one running away from his problems.

Fin is forced into a relationship with a hot dog vendor named Joe (Bobby Cannavale) and an artist named Olivia (Patricia Clarkson).

They have very little in common, but it's Joe's persistence and his love of life that help form an unusual bond between the three strangers. He makes an effort to get to know these people and to share their interests.

Written and directed by Tom McCarthy, *The Station Agent*, which won the Dramatic Audience Award and the Waldo Scott Screenwriting Award at the Sundance Film Festival, draws us in because the characters are genuine. Like *Fin*, the film is subtle and detached. If we pay close attention, we'll realize there's much more going on under the surface. —Matthew Jaster



Black back in 'school'

In *School of Rock*, Dewey Finn, (Jack Black) lives the life of a rock 'n' roller and saves a generation of kids from the likes of Christina Aguilera and P. Diddy. At first, his motives are selfish, using the unique talents of his students to create the perfect rock band. Soon, we realize there are more important things to Dewey than success and theatrical guitar riffs.

Dewey Finn is standard Jack Black fare. Lazy, but inspired, he plays a freeloading roommate who refuses to give into "the man." Kicked out of his band and low on funds, he plots a scheme at a prep school to get some serious rock 'n' roll back in his life.

Principal Mullins (Joan Cusack), is Dewey's nemesis, a tightly wound administrator who could easily ruin his plans. Once a wild child herself, Mullins is now part of the school system, keeping the order by answering to parents who expect nothing short of perfection from the faculty.

Dewey and Principal Mullins butt heads on several education issues. The confrontation between these animated characters comes full circle in a scene where the two drink beers and sing along to Stevie Nicks on the jukebox.

School of Rock is an independent film disguised as a mainstream Hollywood comedy. Director Richard Linklater (*Slacker*, *Dazed and Confused*) ends certain sequences right before they become corny and contrived. The end might seem familiar, but it's the journey that keeps the film interesting.

Black really establishes himself as a legitimate leading man with this performance. He captures the rebellion and freedom associated with making music. Who else could successfully bring out the inner AC/DC and Zeppelin in all of us? —Matthew Jaster

Rating System: ☺ = Sic Pic ☺ = Just Worth The Trip ☹ = Icky Flick

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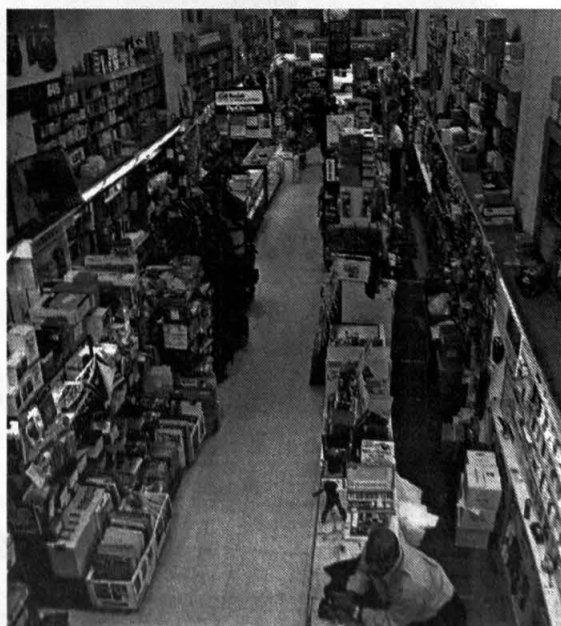
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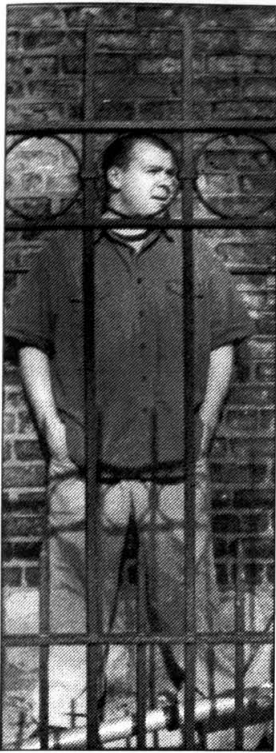
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Musician soars solo with 12-string tunes

○Andy Gray enjoys life after his first album release, *Both Ways From Nowhere*

By Kat Gresey
Assistant A&E Editor



Musician Andy Shaw just released his first album, *Both Ways From Nowhere*.

A man and a 12-string. That is Andy Shaw. Having recently released his first full-length album *Both Ways From Nowhere*, the solo performer has come a long way since his first performance during which a minor disaster occurred.

"I was trying to figure things out. I just had to stop," said Shaw about a broken microphone that abruptly halted one of his earlier shows.

Now that the 22-year-old has a few shows under his belt, he feels confident about what he has to offer.

In late September Shaw, an Ohio native, played at Hog Head McDunna's in front of a small crowd and said the show was great.

"There wasn't a lot of people there, but it was probably one of the best performances I've played," he said. "It sounded 10 times better than the CD, and it's getting to the point that, yeah, it's a representation of my work at the time, but now that I'm playing out live, things are totally speaking out to me in a different way."

The singer/songwriter/guitarist, who names Guster and David Gray as influences, has a rather extensive musical background.

Getting into music at age 10, he played trumpet throughout school and was formerly a music major. He is now a writing for television major

the guitar nicely complements his vocals.

He sings with spirit and plays guitar to match.

One reason Shaw chooses to use a 12-string on his album is the added chorus effect it offers. He said it makes his music sound more full and unique.

His favorite song off the new album, "Kid," exemplifies the skill and heart he puts into his songs.

A very short song with a single verse and chorus, Shaw wrote "Kid" as a reflection

of his childhood.

Shaw hopes people will connect to that song as well as to the rest of the album.

"All music gives an individual feeling," he said. "If you can't relate to the music... It might not be the right thing for you."

So far, Shaw has had the most success connecting with the college crowd and he hopes to tour that scene as soon as next year.

After gaining a following, he would like to move on to playing at bars and clubs, places younger fans, including many college kids, aren't old enough to get into.

In the meantime, he will continue his solo quest for fame.

"It's just me and my guitar," he said.

Check out Andy Shaw Dec. 6, 8 p.m., at the Heatland Café, or visit his website at www.akshaw.com.



at Columbia.

"The direction I wanted to take was not something I could major in," Shaw said, of his decision to switch majors. "A school music program could be discouraging. I find it much more rewarding to do what I do on my own."

Wanting to create more on an individual level, Shaw learned how to play guitar from his friends and said he is still trying to get better.

"I don't pride myself on being a good guitar player," said the singer, despite his obvious talent. He added

tion of his childhood. "It sums up a lot of feelings. It's a very simple song," he said, adding that he likes the fact that the song has two melodies placed on top of

Calling All Musicians ...

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FBI

Continued from Page 21
document a certain time in history. Many of the collages illustrate commercialism, political and world views. "It's another aspect of the history of my times," Mesches said. "It's another way of talking."

In reading the memos it's almost eerie to know that Mesches was being followed for so long and so closely. Some of the documents have information like where his car was parked and whom he dined with.

"They even had my kids' names on them," Mesches said. A lot of the documents have blacked out information, such as the agents' names and Mesches' so-called friends' names.

The combination of painting, cutouts and the files themselves have a unique beauty that only the artist could explain. Mesches said that the largest of the paintings was the first one he started for the "FBI Files" in November/December 2000, which was completed in 2003.

Arnold Mesches's "FBI Files" is on display through Oct. 31 in the Glass Curtain Gallery, of the 1104 Center. A reception will be held on Friday, Oct. 17 from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Mesches will host a discussion from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Debut album from Scotland Yard Gospel Choir satisfies

○Foursome live up to live performances in first full studio effort

By Kat Gresey
Assistant A&E Editor

After a year of painstaking work, the first full-length album from The Scotland Yard Gospel Choir, *I Bet You Say That To All The Boys* will be released Oct. 9.

With 14 tracks, divided in side A, side B fashion, fans and new listeners alike are provided with plenty of material to sink their teeth into.

Kicking off side A is "All the Heart You Wear on Your Sleeve," one of the slower, dreamier tunes on the album. Singer/cellist Ellen O'Hayer softly begins the song and leads it along to a sing-along chorus, topped off with an amazing trumpet solo finish by guest performer Nate Wolcott.

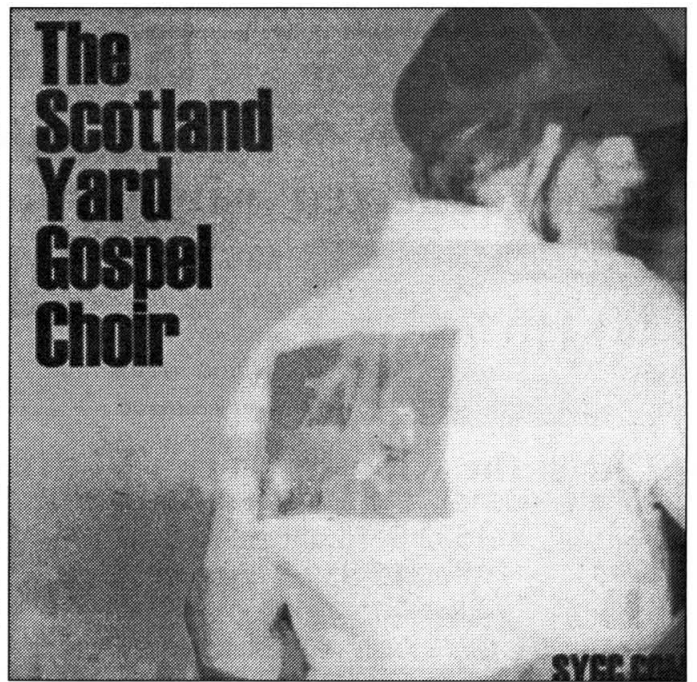
By track five titled, "Along the Way," sung by Matt Kerstein, the broad range of the groups' talent is easily recognizable. An almost 60s sounding rock song, it opens with the words, "tell me who do you think you are?" and is filled with lyrics about adapting to life's unexpected situations.

The songs become progressively more rock and pop through side A, concluding with track seven, "Tear Down the Opera House," a vocally distorted, fast rock song sung by Elia, exhibiting bouncy guitar playing and tons of cymbals from drummer Sam Koentopp.

Side B is mellower than the first half of the album and ends with "Topsy Turvy," which has a surprisingly industrial sounding introduction and is driven by a drum machine.

From folk tunes to rocky pop, *I Bet You Say That To All The Boys* covers a wide spectrum offering adolescent listeners lyrics they can relate to.

You can see SYGC for free at the Metro Oct. 9 at 9 p.m. by visiting their website www.sygc.com.



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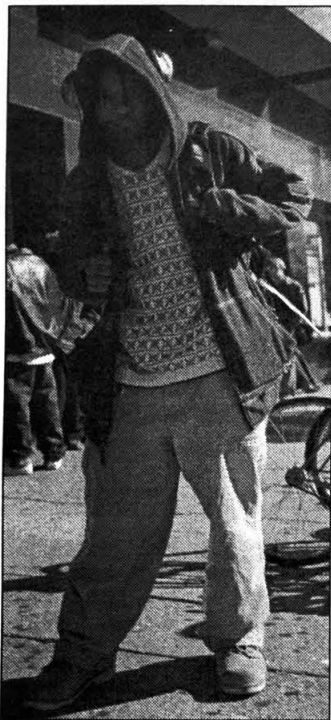
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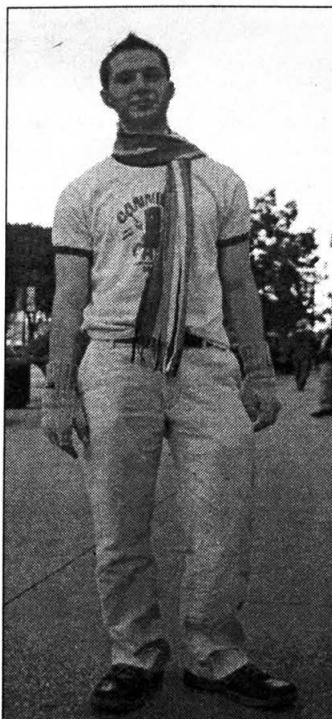
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Street Wear

Every week the Chronicle brings you fashion from fellow Columbia students.



Name: Anthony Scott
Age: 21
Major: Sound Engineering
"Style is very important in the hip-hop community."



Name: TC Anderson
Age: 21
Major: Musical Theater
"Color coordination is key."



Name: Yoko Yamagami
Age: 24
Major: Interior Architecture
"I like any color that looks good on me."

Heather Morrison/Chronicle

HORROR SCOPE

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For the week of: Oct. 6-Oct. 12

ARIES (March 21-April 19) It's another lonely week in Singleville. Why not call up an ex? They're always happy to hear from you after being dumped.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Unlike syphilis, nasty gossip won't go away with a shot of penicillin. Be careful whom you spread it to.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Again, one of your multiple personalities comes out this week. Tell it to shut up, or better yet, get a job.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You've tried personals, set-ups from friends and distant cousins, with no luck. A crudely lettered sign displaying your intentions and phone number in Grant Park may do the trick.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Remember: Flame retardant doesn't work against gasoline, just like alcohol doesn't mix with antibiotics.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Vegetables are good for you. Why not get some roughage this week?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) If horse racing is the sport of kings, then foxy boxing is the sport of indifferent, intellectually slovenly wenches. Get yourself a good manager.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You'll be thinking of grandma this week when your toilet backs up. More specifically, you'll be thinking of her famous Chicken Kiev.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Well, aren't you the popular one this week? Utilize all this newfound attention toward a worthy cause.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Cut the bull—already, you goat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) For the last time, no one wants to hear about your damn rabbit farm.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Like the fish you are, you swim through your days. Stop and take a look at the life around you.

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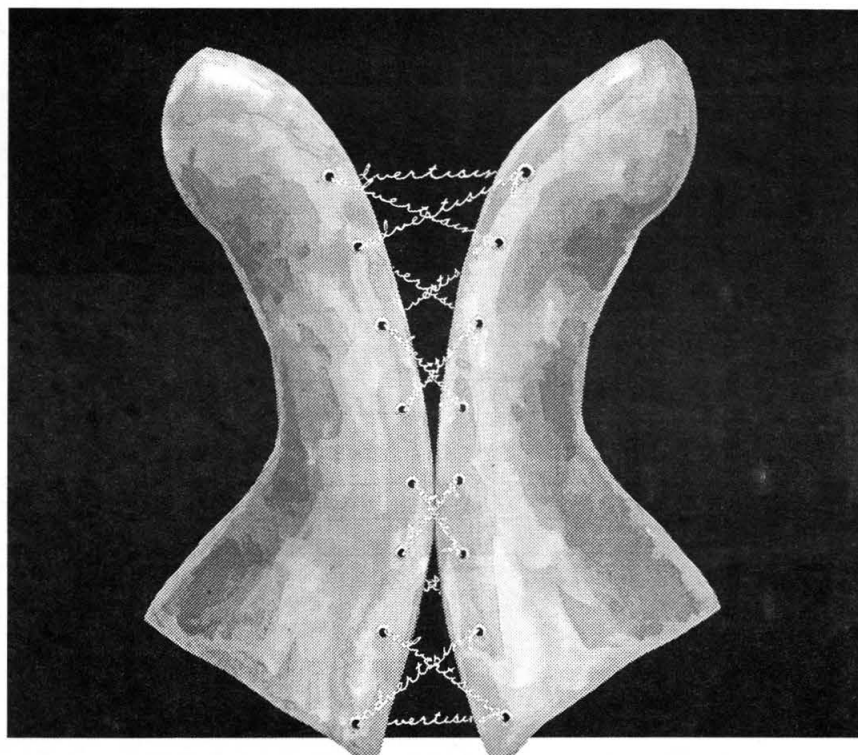
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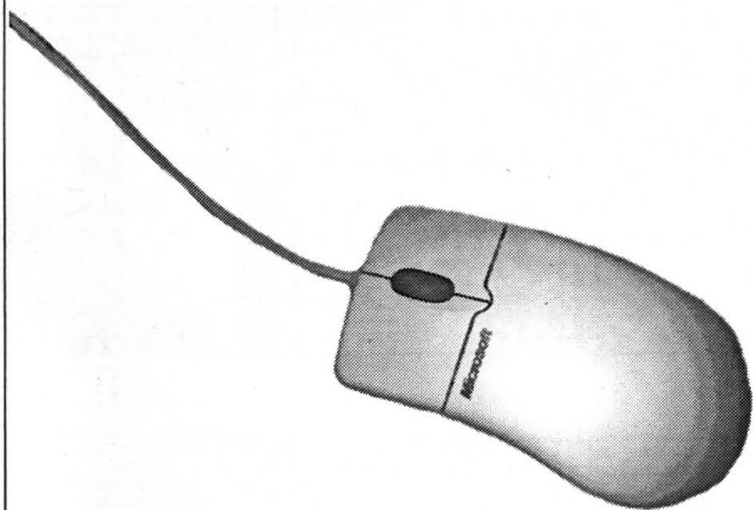
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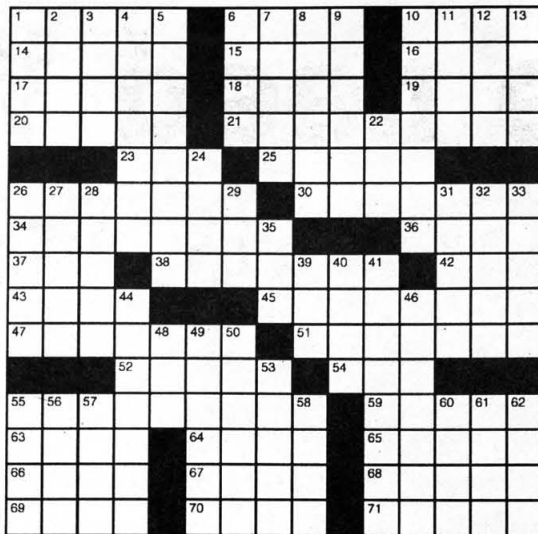


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Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Gray-faced
 - 6 Ironical laugh
 - 10 Crib call
 - 14 Play replay, often
 - 15 McGregor of "Emma"
 - 16 Rider's whip
 - 17 Singing Carpenter
 - 18 Beheaded Boleyn
 - 19 Porgy's love
 - 20 Ringo or Bart
 - 21 Belittle
 - 23 Help out
 - 25 Diameter halves
 - 26 Scapegoat
 - 30 Carpenter's tool
 - 34 Hoity-toity
 - 36 Italian volcano
 - 37 Personal pension \$
 - 38 Deaths
 - 42 Put two and two together
 - 43 Newshound's organ
 - 45 Ornamental garden with patterned paths
 - 47 Grinds together
 - 51 Trailblazer
 - 52 Small pies
 - 54 Neither's partner
 - 55 Lower an exchange rate
 - 59 Go-getters
 - 63 Give forth
 - 64 Type of sch.
 - 65 Liquefy
 - 66 Distance measure
 - 67 Birch or alder
 - 68 Expiate
 - 69 Mineral deposits
 - 70 "Auld Lang —"
 - 71 Tries out

- DOWN
- 1 Invites
 - 2 Thin strip of wood
 - 3 Round dance
 - 4 Green beryl
 - 5 Flexible
 - 6 Beer formation
 - 7 Property holder



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10/08/03

- 8 " — and Her Sisters"
- 9 New York lake
 - 10 Singer Martina
 - 11 Zone
 - 12 More than half
 - 13 Church section
 - 22 Rummy call
 - 24 City slicker
 - 26 Highland dance
 - 27 Producer
 - 28 City in Tibet
 - 29 Edible tuber
 - 31 Fixed gaze
 - 32 Agassi or Citroen
 - 33 Heron or egret
 - 35 Cool or groovy
 - 39 Gullible person
 - 40 Emerald Isle
 - 41 Took no cards
 - 44 Landed properties
 - 46 On the way
 - 48 Actor Linden
 - 49 Becomes violently active

Solutions



- 50 Van Gogh painting, " — Night"
- 53 "Skittle Players" painter
- 55 Brief sample
- 56 Bahrain ruler
- 57 Wicked
- 58 Edgeless sword
- 60 Aphrodite's child
- 61 Tenant's payment
- 62 Observes

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Soldier Field opens with few complications, police say

Minimal ticket scalping, arrests makes first game day a success

By Angela Caputo
City Beat Editor

The Chicago Bears' Sept. 30 home opener at Soldier Field went off nearly without a hitch, public officials said.

A police presence of more than five dozen helped to keep the crowd of thousands in check. Officers were most noticeable in the area where the newly designated game day parking ban went into effect—between Cermak and Roosevelt roads, Clark Street and Lake Michigan.

Fourteen arrests were made, the vast majority for scalping and selling counterfeit tickets, according to an officer with the First District Police. Police confiscated 85 counterfeit tickets and nearly \$9,000 from a person charged with selling them.

Public drinking, which was not allowed outside the designated tailgating zone, was not tolerated by police who said they issued 41 citations that

will require court appearances.

Still, many fans believed it was worth the risk to tailgate in areas where it's not allowed.

Mike Panozzo, 26, of Peotone, and three of his buddies started their own party. Operating out of the hatch of an SUV in the parking lot at the corner of Balbo Drive and State Street, the three said what they were doing was harmless.

"We've tailgated here before," said Panozzo, who thought the police probably had bigger issues to deal with than breaking up their party.

The parking situation, anticipated to be the biggest problem on game day, went relatively smoothly. Only 14 parking tickets were issued and no tows were reported.

Sgt. Bill O'Reilly, the business liaison for the First District, attributed the minimal amount of parking violations to the success of the media blitz that was intended to inform South Loop

residents of the parking restrictions.

In the end, though, there did seem to be some confusion among residents.

On the morning of the Bears versus the Green Bay Packers game, Mike McGraw, a 41-year-old condo dweller in the 1500 block of South Wabash Avenue, visited the local police station to find out where he should park under the ban.

"I saw signs in the street... and didn't know anything about permit parking," McGraw said.

Despite the confusion, the Bears fan said he was excited about the home opener, happening virtually in his backyard.

For those who didn't get the message before the no parking signs were hung, police directed residents like McGraw to the alderman's office to pick up their rightful permits.

Alderman Madeline Haitchcock (2nd Ward) passed them out from each of her three ward offices. Although she said that thousands of permits were disseminated, the alderman said she couldn't provide an official tally. The residential parking permits will apply to all game days.

John Embro, 60, another confused resident from the 1500 block of South Wabash Avenue said that he was glad to get the tip from police about the still available permits.

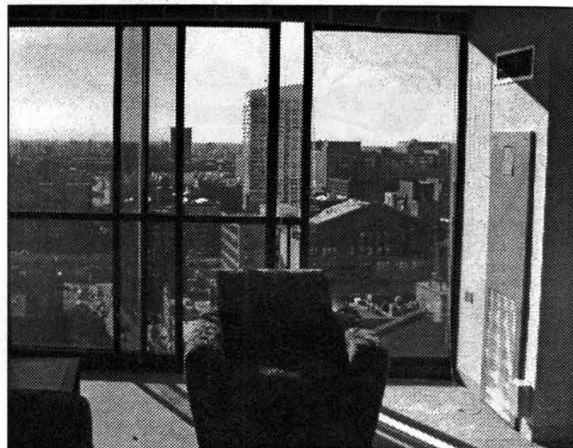
He said without one he'd "probably go and park in another neighborhood... and take a radio or something."

"But," he added, "I'd rather watch it on TV."

Despite the frustration, Embro, who has a view of Soldier Field from his top floor apartment, said he was optimistic about living next to the stadium. "I'm a big fan," he said. "I love the Bears, and this is exciting."

Eighth Street campus housing to open next fall

College Park Communities plans to open up 2 E. 8th St. building to area schools



Charles Kushner/Chronicle

Empty apartments at 2 E. 8th St. await the changeover of the building to a campus housing complex.

By Fernando Diaz
Campus News Editor

Columbia's semester began this year as it does almost every year, with some students having no place to call home in the city.

However, one South Loop building that has housed some students from local downtown universities in the past, changed ownership over the summer and is making it easier and more desirable for some of these students to move closer to campus.

After the building at 2 E. 8th St. was recently purchased, Pennsylvania-based College Park Communities converted it to alternative student housing, and a new lease structure was put in place.

Nonstudent tenants are being slowly phased out as current leases are set to expire by Aug. 31, 2004, making way for as many as 326 additional student units next fall.

The student housing development group has sweetened the deal with an unprecedented individual lease liability in place. The building at 2 E. 8th St. is the only one in the city offering such a lease, which holds each tenant responsible individually, rather than all tenants collectively to the terms of the lease.

Mary Oakes, director of Residence Life, wants there to be no mistake about who is operating the complex. Columbia is in no way affiliated with the leasing company, she said.

College Park Communities is a private company. They are liable for insurance purposes should anything happen to a student who is living there or any of their guests. The same is true for the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court.

With about 150 students waiting for a spot in the dorms, a unit at the 2 E. 8th St. building is considered a luxury.

"They have assisted greatly in getting students housing," Oakes said. "Finding somewhere to live is a daunting task when you're not familiar with the Chicagoland area."

The building is being operated in much the same way as a traditional dormitory. And leases are being sought in a similar manner, too, at career fairs and orientation sessions.

Students can rent furnished apartments with dorm-style accommodations to share with roommates, said Trudy von Keudell, property manager at 2 E. 8th St.

If a student chooses to rent by the bed and not the unit, furniture and the individual lease liability will be part of their contract.

If a couple decides to live in the same unit, they will have to rent by the unit. The rules are the same, however, as they would be for students living at a dorm.

If students are caught breaking the rules, their co-signers, in most cases parents or guardians, will be notified in addition to the police.

"Older students are looking to rent by the unit," Horwitz said.

CPC plans to eventually house students from Columbia, DePaul and Roosevelt universities, Robert Morris College, the School of the Art Institute and the Illinois Institute of Art. Of the current resident assistants, two are Columbia students, and the residence director is a Columbia graduate. There are currently 57 students living in the building through CPC, and Horwitz said she expects to see that number rise to 70 by the end of October.

Units range from \$725 for four people to share a two-bedroom apartment to \$875 for two students to share a one-bedroom unit. Prices will vary depending on the unit's location in the building.



Andrew J. Scott/Chronicle

As the revamped Soldier Field gets ready for its first season, parking congestion in the South Loop has become a growing concern among area residents.

Workers ride toward reform

Freedom tours in 10 cities show support for immigrant rights by bus

By Eva Green
Contributing Writer

Nearly 200 activists preparing to board buses for the beginning of the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride were greeted by thousands of immigrant rights supporters who filled the Federal Plaza in downtown Chicago on the morning of Sept. 27.

Influenced by the freedom riders of the 1960s civil rights movement, Chicago activists have launched the start of the bus tour. Nine other cities nationwide are participating in the action.

Buses carrying the freedom riders will cover more than 20,000 miles, stopping in hundreds of towns and cities, calling for immigration reform and equal civil rights for all immigrants living and working in the United States.

They will later converge in Washington, D.C., to bring their plight to the attention of the U.S. Congress. They will then continue on to New York City for a mass rally that is anticipated to be attended by tens-of-thousands of supporters.

Dancers and musicians contributed to the festive atmosphere as anarchists, union members, religious affiliates, community organizations and the riders themselves united in chants of "Si se puede!" [Yes we can!]

Ten-year-old Ivan Bolivar said he is riding on the bus "so immigrants can get the same rights as citizens."

"Some kids that are immigrants can't go to school," he said.

He also expressed concerns about the devastating effects unequal treatment can have on immigrant youth.

John Foster, an African-American freedom rider and Association of Community Organizations for Reform

leader, declared to the crowd: "If we can get our immigrant sisters and brothers legalized, we can all fight together for decent wages and health insurance and quality education and living wage jobs. We can fight for the American dream."

Not everyone present for the freedom riders predeparture celebration stood in support of the movement. A handful of counter-protesters, who remained behind metal barricades, flying swastika flags and raising their hands in the Nazi salute, directed their messages through the line of police at the rallying demonstrators.

Mark, a protester who withheld his last name, was the only one who agreed to comment on the matter.

"[Immigrants] should have the same rights as an American has, but in their own country," he said.

Standing behind handcrafted signs, which claimed that immigrants are taking American jobs, he said, "Immigrants 200, 50 or even 100 years

ago fought for this country and became a part of this society. They didn't come over expecting a welfare check or food stamps."

In response to those opposed to the rally, freedom rider Rudy Lozano Jr. said he felt that they "need to be over here, fighting for what we all want, which is basic jobs with quality benefits and salary. That's what they're fighting for, but they're taking it out on us, because that's what this country does; it scapegoats immigrants. I think really they're on our side and don't know it."

Lozano also said he believes that "access to quality education, health care and housing is a basic right that should be guaranteed to all people, especially workers who are supporting any economy. Our basic history shows that this country was founded on immigrants."

The Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride has already gained support from various political leaders such as U.S. Rep. Luis Guterrez (D-Ill.) and Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White.



Eva Green/Chronicle

Protesters of the freedom rides for immigrant workers rights gather at Federal Plaza Sept. 27.

SCOPE *Continued from Back Page*

According to the safety departments participating in the coalition, reactions to the group have been overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

"Without SCOPE, we wouldn't have the information to distribute," said Bob Fitzpatrick, director of Safety and Security at Roosevelt University. "Sharing information, whether it's on laptop thieves or fire evacuation, is always an invaluable resource."

However, the participants do foresee a tough road ahead if they are to create a tighter network.

Besides the inherently hectic schedules of the group's members, the opening of the "superdorm" for

incoming freshmen at Columbia, DePaul and Roosevelt universities has created even more concerns for safety and emergency precautions.

"When you add Roosevelt and DePaul's students [to Columbia's 700], we're talking about a huge number of students moving into the new dorm who probably won't know anyone outside the city and will have nowhere to go in case of emergency," Meegan said.

Despite these snags, the group sees a lot of potential in SCOPE; not just for the Chicago area but in any large city that houses many major educational institutions in close proximity.

Blue line renovation project moves closer to completion

o \$483 million-‘Renew the Blue’ working on 11 el stations

By Andrew Greiner
Staff Writer

Eight of the 11 el stations on the Cermak/Douglas branch of the Blue Line are undergoing a face-lift, and 6.6 miles of historic track are being renovated, according to Chicago Transit Authority officials.

The 100-year-old branch of the Blue Line serves the communities between Cicero and Pilsen.

The CTA introduced the \$483 million “Renew the Blue” project in September 2001. Federal funding of \$384 million covers the lion’s share of the project’s costs. The Illinois Fund for Infrastructure, Roads, Schools and Transit program granted an additional \$80.9 million and the remaining \$18 million will come from regional funding.

In addition to replacing tracks, the CTA’s largest ever capital improvement project will bring most of the stations up to date with modern amenities, like elevators.

Since the September 2001 groundbreaking ceremony at the 54th and Cermak station, construction has begun at the Pulaski, Central Park, Kedzie and California stations.

Two stations—54th and Cermak, and Kostner, the stop formerly known as Kildare—have been finished well ahead of the anticipated completion date of September 2005.

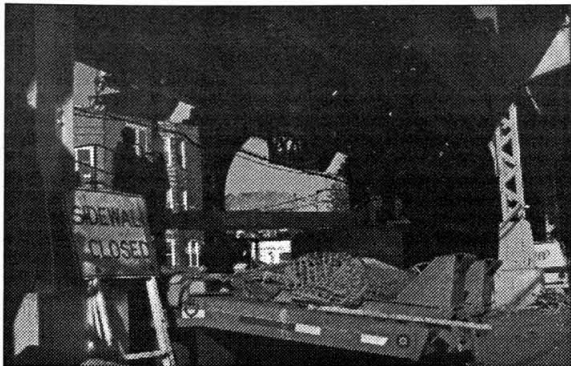
CTA spokeswoman Robyn Ziegler said that the Blue Line construction is on schedule and under budget.

“The project is running smoothly as expected,” Ziegler said.

Before the renovations, nearly 50 percent of the line’s dilapidated tracks were slow zones where trains capable of traveling 55 mph were forced to slow down to 15 mph.

After the renovations are complete, the CTA predicts the trip from 54th/Cermak to downtown will trim as many as 25 minutes off the currently 40 to 45 minute trek.

Restoration of the stations will include replacing deteriorating steel supports with 700 caissons, or



Jason Salerno/Chronicle

The California stop on the CTA Blue line is currently one of eight stops being refurbished under the 2001 “Renew the Blue” project.

cement columns. Most stations will also receive new ramps and elevators to accommodate disabled passengers.

New windbreaks, canopies and overhead heaters will be installed to combat the elements. Stations will be equipped with advanced communication systems to aid customers with train and bus arrivals too, according to CTA officials.

Marisa Pozo, a broadcast journalism major at Columbia, is a resident of Cicero and uses the Blue Line to commute to school. She said she is happy with the improvements to her stop.

“The old station at 54th/Cermak was old and run-down. When people got off the train, they knew they were in Cicero,” Pozo said with a smile. “Now the station is big, clean and modern. It makes the city look clean.”

Even with the huge proportions of the construction project, passengers say they encounter minimal delays. Most of the work is performed on the weekends when the line is not in service or after service hours during the week.

Temporary platforms built to accommodate passengers during sta-

tion closings are an example of how the CTA is helping commuters get through the construction phase.

“The CTA is working to rebuild its entire system,” Ziegler said. “The only way to maintain ridership is to keep the quality of the system up.”

However, not every stage of the reconstruction phase has gone so smoothly. Because the line was built between 1895 and 1912, some of the stations are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, part of the National Park Service. The construction crew is restoring the original canopies and integrating the original facade into the modern design of the Kedzie station.

“The idea is to save enough of the fabric from the original stations so that riders can keep an idea of the history there,” said Jim Peters of the Landmark Preservation Society of Illinois.

Even with the sensitivity of the historic stations, construction is on schedule. Completion is still a couple of years away, but some benefits are already evident.

“I don’t know if it’s making the train any faster, but it smells less,” said Brian Kravets, a sound major at Columbia.



Angela Caputo
City Beat Editor

On a daily basis in Chicago, the wrecking ball strikes and brick-by-brick pieces of Chicago’s history escape us.

Destruction of buildings and houses has become so pervasive that after living in Chicago for a mere five years, I find myself losing track of where I am even in my own neighborhood, where I travel the same streets daily.

Scratching my head, I often wonder, “what happened to that building?” or sometimes it’s a worker’s cottage or wide-open yard that’s lost.

Before our eyes, almost without recognition, structures that don’t have the ability to garner widespread attention for their historical significance are meeting up with demolition crews. Each swing of the wrecking ball chips away at the presence of our past.

Moreover, landmarks that remain in the public eye—some even known beyond our little corner of the world like the now vacant Cook County Hospital—aren’t necessarily safe either. Even the outrage of preservationists isn’t enough sometimes.

City officials who ultimately grant permission for the teardowns can’t use naiveté as an excuse for eroding away Chicago’s physical past. They are largely responsible.

Through a 12-year, \$1.2 million survey process that began in 1983, 17,000 buildings were deemed by the city as having historic or architectural significance. Hundreds have been torn down.

Preservationists speculate that a dubious undertaking of the city’s Landmark Division by the Department of Planning and Development is partly responsible for the lack of protection.

Last year, an investigative survey by the Chicago Tribune revealed that some South Loop spots were demolished despite their historic significance.

In a pursuit to wear down some shoe leather and see what these sites have become, I took a tour.

Between Harrison and 15th streets, Wabash and Michigan

avenues, at least five buildings have been razed to make way for acres of black asphalt parking lots and massive condo developments.

Some of the teardowns have become big open spaces of nothing. One of the most glaring examples is the now vacant and fenced off parking lot at 610 S. Wabash Ave., totting a for lease sign at the corner of Harrison Street and Wabash Avenue.

Another is the former 1431-47 S. Michigan Ave. building, once the George Smith Memorial Building for St. Luke’s Hospital. There I found a commercial scale concrete and glass condo development, which took its place despite the building’s high rank of historical significance by the city’s surveyors.

The new building, which looks more like a compound than anything else, wasn’t too interesting. But what was going on a few doors down certainly was.

A site supervisor from one of Chicago’s busiest construction companies walked me through a plan to gut a two-story building with ornate terra-cotta facade at the corner of 14th Street and Michigan Avenue.

Grace O’Malley’s, an Irish pub, will fill the space when the dust settles, he said.

The building that abuts the incoming pub was done-over in the same manner, as was an enormous condo building with almost a couple hundred units across the street.

The developer beamed with pride at the historic integrity of the project his crew was laboring over. He said although the new buildings are “cheaper and quicker” to put up, preserving and restoring a historic site is much more satisfying.

What other historic treasures were lost, many of us will never be fortunate enough to know.

But what I did learn from pursuing our neighborhood’s past is that if held to higher standards, more innovation in re-developments will occur and would reflect a society that is ornate and beautiful rather than disposable, quick and basic.

Kimono *Continued from Back Page*

Hisae Takeda, president of the Cultural Foundation for Promoting the National Costume of Japan said this performance is not merely a costume promotion.

“During the war period, Japanese women had to cut off their long kimono sleeves to be more practical,” said Takeda.

In modern society, not many wear kimonos in their daily life, she added, “but it would be impossible to even enjoy wearing traditional costume like kimono in the modern soci-

ety, as long as we keep the war.”

The one-time only event dubbed “Kimono on Stage” was part of a monthlong anniversary celebration. However, the Art Institute still has an ongoing kimono exhibition titled, “Wrapped in Fashion: Japanese Kimono” in Gallery 109 until January 2004.

The show started with two young women in vivid yellow and orange kimonos, who performed the formal attire dressing presentation.

They demonstrated how to handle

an Obi sash, about 450 yards long—a key part of the costume—tying it into shapes including butterflies and flowers. After the presentation, 10 models showed up on the stage and turned around to show different Obi patterns on their backs.

Heian Era costume, called Junihitoe was also presented. Wearing layered jackets in a certain color order—from the inside, yellow, green, dark green, pink, dark pink, purple and red—two stylists put layers of kimono jackets on a tiny, but

selected model (the costume weighs 350 pounds).

After two stylists finally finished dressing the model, she slowly walked around the stage to show the entire look of the costume.

As Mary Sue Glosser, a coordinator of the Art Institute, spoke about the Japanese culture, the perform-

ance gave “aspirations for tranquility, serenity and discipline,” to the audience.

“Touching of the moment, of the season, of the time, the air, the environment, flowers and trees ... and the moment for the people who [live] in those [pictures],” Glosser added.



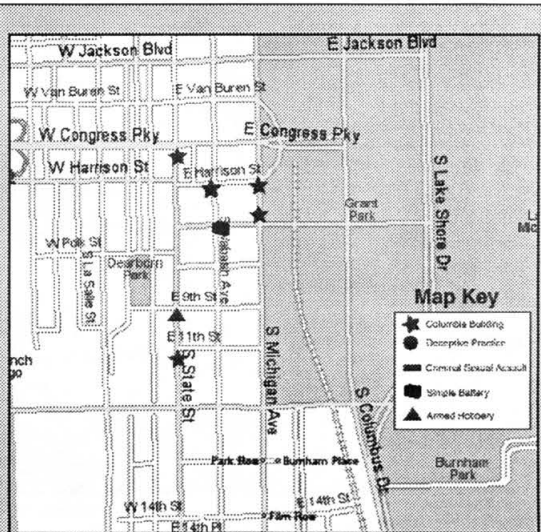
When a 28-year-old South Side resident riding in a Wolley Cab Association car refused to pay his fare at 4:30 a.m., the driver put his foot down. Stepping on the gas, the cab driver drove the delinquent, who was charged with deceptive practice, straight to the First District Police station. Still refusing to pay, the passenger suggested to the officers that they arrest him for theft of services, and they did.

An attempted armed robbery occurred in a parking structure at 919 S. State St. Sept. 26, at 7:57 p.m. An unknown 25-year-old male offender tried to pull off the robbery with a hand gun, according to a police report.

An 18-year-old female, traveling on the Red Line from a North Side college to her South Side home, was accosted Sept. 23 at 10:30 p.m. following the orders of an assaulter. She was led off the train to an alley two blocks away at 1 W. Randolph St. where she was sexually abused. The offender, described as a 26-year-old male with a moustache and a silver earring, is not in custody.

A simple battery occurred in a public parking lot at 54 E. Balbo Drive, Sept. 17, at 12:30 a.m. when a dispute between two co-workers erupted. A 28-year-old man, of the 9400 block of North LeClaire Avenue, was taken into custody for punching a 40-year-old co-worker. The assaulter was charged with simple battery.

—Compiled by Angela Caputo through data provided by the First District Chicago Police Department



IIT opens new campus center

○ State-of-the-art center called 'beacon of progress for the ... South Loop'

By Angela Caputo
City Beat Editor

Neither the gray, cloudy skies nor the biting winds could dampen the enthusiasm of the Illinois Institute of Technology community members and city officials that attended a ribbon cutting ceremony, Sept. 30, which marked the highly anticipated opening of the architecturally marveled campus center.

"We've been anticipating this for a while and we've been watching it for years," said architecture student Aaron Adams, 23, an IIT senior. Adams said he and most other students have been anxious to see this day come since the initial construction began in July 2000.

Stretching between 32nd and 33rd streets near State Street, The McCormick Tribune Campus Center, an ambitious \$48.2 million project, is being celebrated by the South Side community as a symbol of the community's future, which will include more upscale developments.

"[This] is a beacon of progress for the revitalization of the South Side," said Richard Behrenhausen, president and CEO of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, to a crowd of onlookers congregated on the lawn under the el tracks. The foundation contributed \$13 million to the overall project.

The manner in which mass transit passes through the campus—alongside the building through an above ground ribbed steel tube—is perhaps the most innovative aspect of the exterior.

Construction costs of the \$13 million spherical structure were largely covered by a state sponsored Illinois FIRST grant.

Flying swiftly by, the el trains create a clanging roar that drown out even

the most boisterous of voices, like Mayor Richard M. Daley, whose speech was partially muted by the rumbling of a Green Line train that passed overhead.

Daley thanked the South Side university for "being a partner in rebuilding the lives of people who live in public housing," perhaps alluding to the falling Robert Taylor Homes, just south of the campus and the effects of the city's redevelopment plan for the surrounding community.

Students say they are excited about the 110,000-square-foot structure primarily because the purpose of the building is dedicated for their use.

"I used to have to walk far to the bookstore and the post office but now it's in one place," said Wesley Leggett, 18, a freshman electrical engineering student. "It finishes off the campus because there are a lot of services that weren't here before."

"This building is supposed to be marveled for its interior rather than exterior," Adams said. Top-notch art deco furniture and a coffee bar adorn the glass walled structure.

Architect Rem Koolhaas is the principle designer of the project.

His innovative design is being dubbed the most inventive piece of architecture created on the campus since the late Ludwig Mies van de Rohe designed the original plans for the main campus.

Although the building is being heralded as a new focal point for the IIT community, Lew Collins, the college's president, said the presence of the new structure is also symbolic of a larger theme.

"[It's] a milestone in our master plan ... to transform this campus into the most vibrant part of the city," he said.

Seeing the light



Charles Kushner/Chronicle

The final touches are put on the new stop lights at the corner of South Wabash Avenue and Harrison Street.

Area schools join to fight crime

○ Security Counsel of Professional Educators looks to coordinate area institutions under same safety codes

By Scotty Carlson
Staff Writer

Security officials from Columbia, DePaul and Roosevelt universities have joined forces to build a coalition of South Loop educational institutions.

The objective of the coalition, which is called the Security Counsel of Professional Educators, is to build a network between the schools where security information can easily be shared, according to Columbia Director of Campus Safety Martha Meegan, who founded the group.

"The South Loop schools share many of the same criminal activity and offenders," Meegan said. "If we can get photos or descriptions of our offenders, and then pass them along to community members, we will hopefully shut these types of activities and offenders out of our area."

"We universities share resources and operations," said Randy Shire, assistant director of Public Safety at DePaul University. "Similarly, there are predators that prey on all of us."

The group also networks by pooling their safety practices and emergency evacuation procedures.

"All institutions have something to offer, such as safety procedures that they're proud of, or something new they've come across," Meegan said. "The institutions have given presentations on their own safety procedures and contributing information."

This sharing of information is not limited to local schools. The coalition is also working with neighboring cultural institutions and organizations, including the Harold Washington Library and the Pacific Garden Mission, to pare down some of the South Loop's danger areas to students.

"One of the biggest difficulties [students] have around here is problems with some of the homeless," Meegan said. "Pacific Garden has encouraged us to call the mission directly and ask for their security personnel to intervene if we have any problems with solicitation by the homeless."

Currently, the effects of SCOPE may not be entirely visible to students of the participating colleges, but Meegan holds that its existence will prove valuable when a crisis arises.

"Aside from some security interventions, students will see the benefits of the coalition when it comes to an emergency situation and we'll know where to send them for shelter," Meegan said.

Meegan founded the group last February after learning an advisory counsel of the First District Chicago Police, which focuses on all major safety incidents in the area, did not include the schools.

"The people in the group represented organizations and businesses in the South Loop and talked about their own issues, but no one was there to represent the educational institutions," Meegan said. "So, I asked to attend and represent the schools."

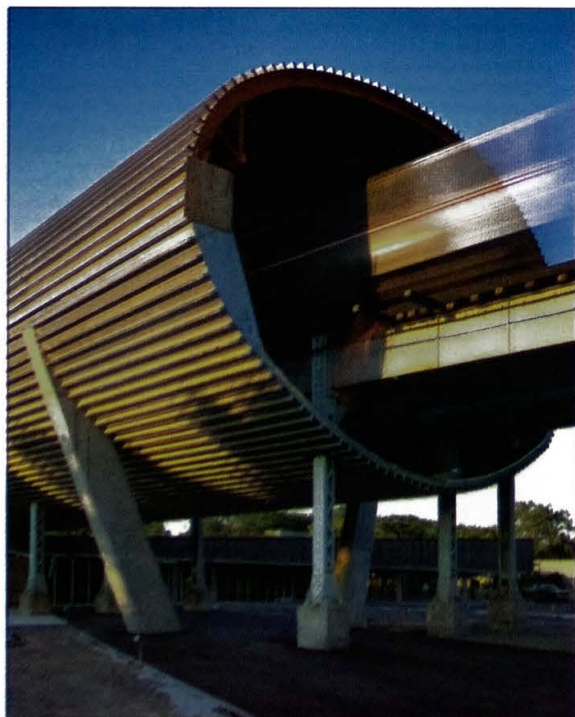


Photo courtesy of IIT

The McCormick Tribune Campus Center was recently added to the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Art Institute celebrates Kimonos

○ Event puts Japanese garb into historical context

By Hiroko Abe
Contributing Writer

Approximately 400 people attended a Sept. 30 event at the Art Institute of Chicago to celebrate the commencement of the trade relationship between the United States and Japan.

Celebrating the 150-year trade relationship, which began when Commodore Matthew Perry anchored at Tokyo Bay in 1853, Japanese performers presented a dynamic and colorful kimono presentation, followed by a lecture.

In an opening remark, Japanese Consul General of Chicago, Mitsuo Sakaba said he saw irony in celebrating the historic significance of the kimono since the opening of foreign trade between the nations modernized Japan, effectively putting the kimono culture to rest.

"But the rich culture of the kimono still exists vividly in our country," he said before introducing Takayoshi Mizushima, a chairman of the Cultural Foundation for Promoting the National Costume of Japan.

Mizushima, in a black traditional kimono, called hakama, explained that kimono is the symbol of the peace.

"I hope to promote not only lasting friendship between two countries but also world peace through the show," he said.

The time when Japanese wore kimonos as daily wardrobes—the Heian Era (794-1185 A.D.)—is considered as one of the most peaceful periods in Japanese history.

Courtly women in the palace dressed up with long layered kimonos and mostly stayed inside, reading, writing poems and playing games.

At the event, kimono dancers gracefully demonstrated the layering of silk robes and reenacted the atmosphere of the Heian Era on the stage at the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave.

Kimono performers from Kyoto, Japan have performed in several countries such as France, England, Italy, China and Russia.

See **Kimono**, Page 31

See **SCOPE**, Page 30